GMIT
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Operating Systems

Process Management

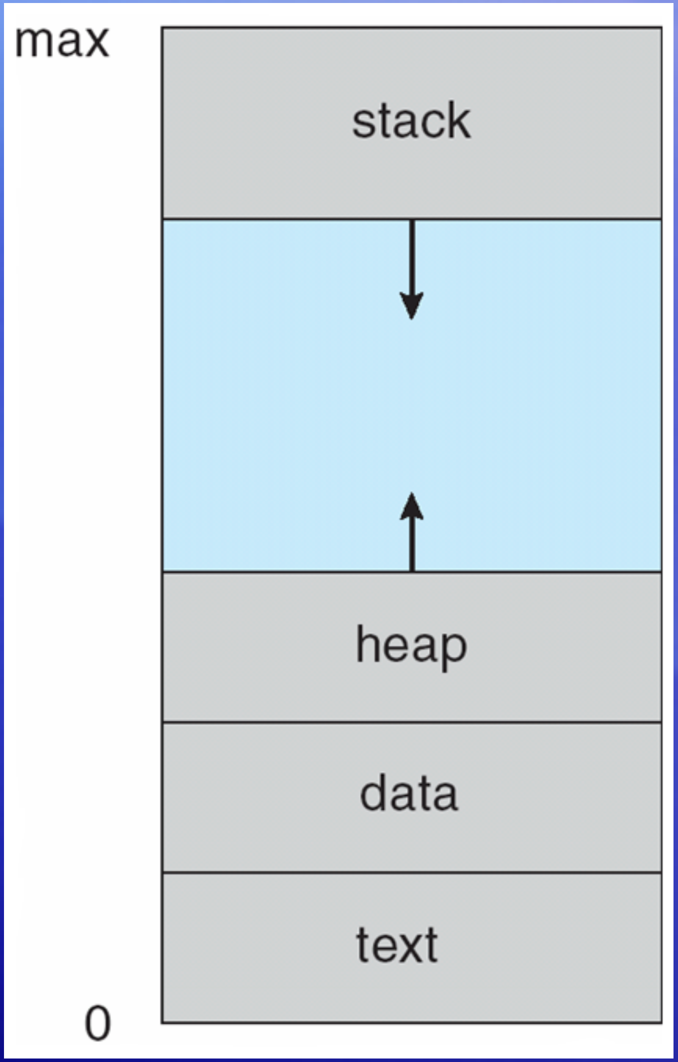
Process

- An operating system executes a variety of programs:
  - Batch system – jobs
  - Time-shared systems – user programs or tasks
- The terms *job* and *process* almost interchangeably
- Process – a program in execution; process execution must progress in sequential fashion
- A process includes:
  - program counter
  - Stack
  - data section

The Process

- Multiple parts
  - The program code, also called **text section**
  - Current activity including **program counter**, processor registers
  - **Stack** containing temporary data
    - Function parameters, return addresses, local variables
  - **Data section** containing global variables
  - **Heap** containing memory dynamically allocated during run time
- Program is passive entity, process is active
  - Program becomes process when executable file loaded into memory
- Execution of program started via GUI mouse clicks, command line entry of its name, etc
- One program can be several processes
  - Consider multiple users executing the same program

Process in Memory

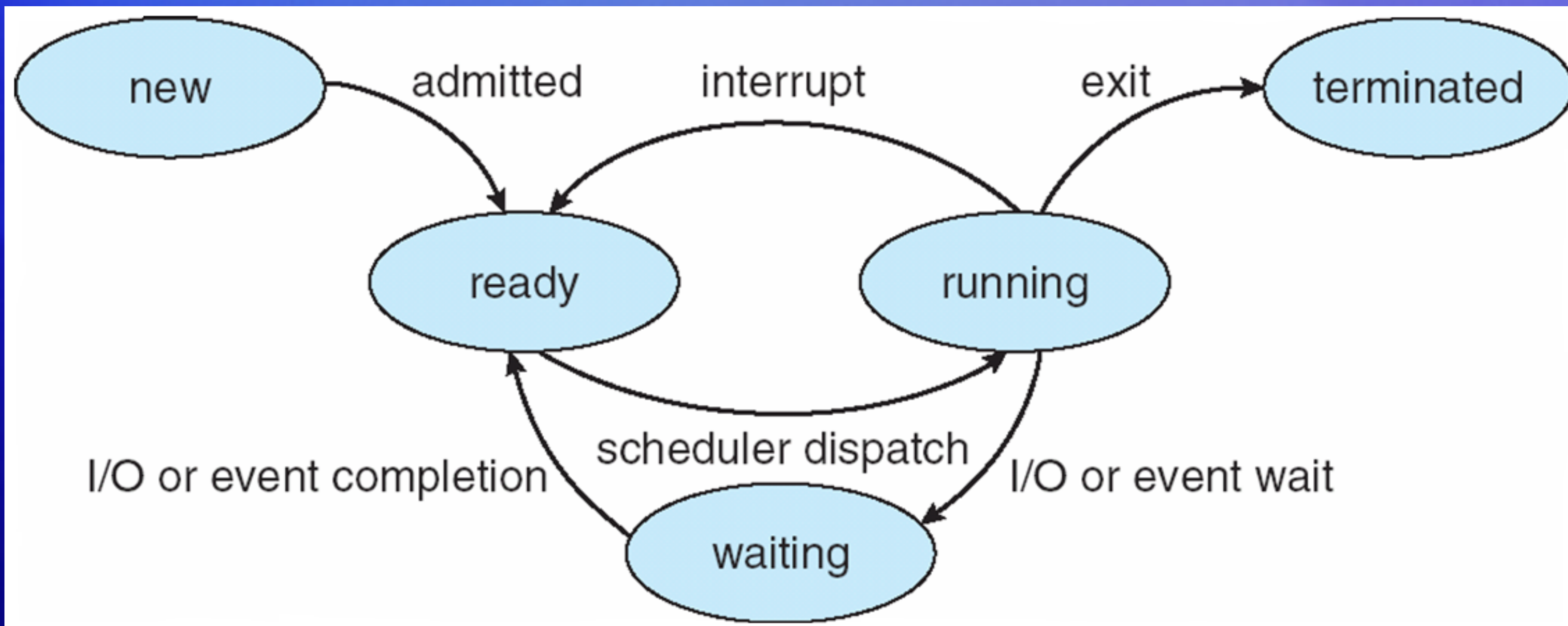


Process States

As a process executes, it changes state

- new: The process is being created
- running: Instructions are being executed
- waiting: The process is waiting for some event to occur
- ready: The process is waiting to be assigned to a processor
- terminated: The process has finished execution

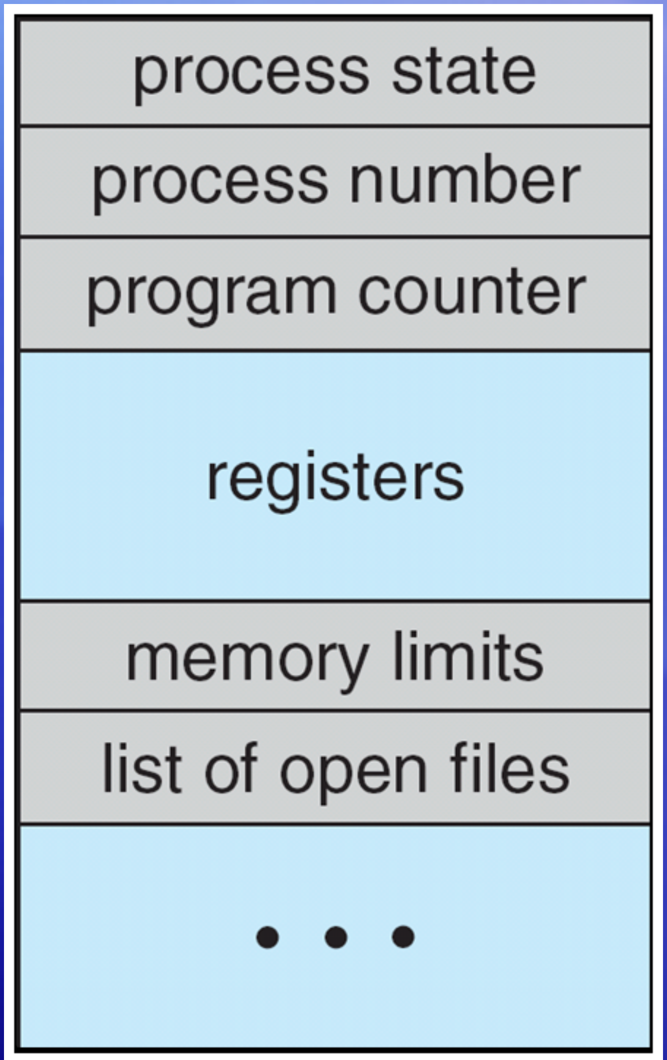
Program States



Process Control Block

- Information associated with each process
  - Process state
  - Program counter
  - CPU registers
  - CPU scheduling information
  - Memory-management information
  - Accounting information
  - I/O status information

Process Control Block



Process Control Block

- Process state.

The state may be new, ready, running, waiting, halted, and so on.

- Program counter.

The counter indicates the address of the next instruction to be executed for this process.

- CPU registers.

The registers vary in number and type, depending on the computer architecture. They include accumulators, index registers, stack pointers, and general-purpose registers, plus any condition-code information. Along with the program counter, this state information must be saved when an interrupt occurs, to allow the process to be continued correctly afterward

Process Control Block

- CPU-scheduling information.

This information includes a process priority, pointers to scheduling queues, and any other scheduling parameters.

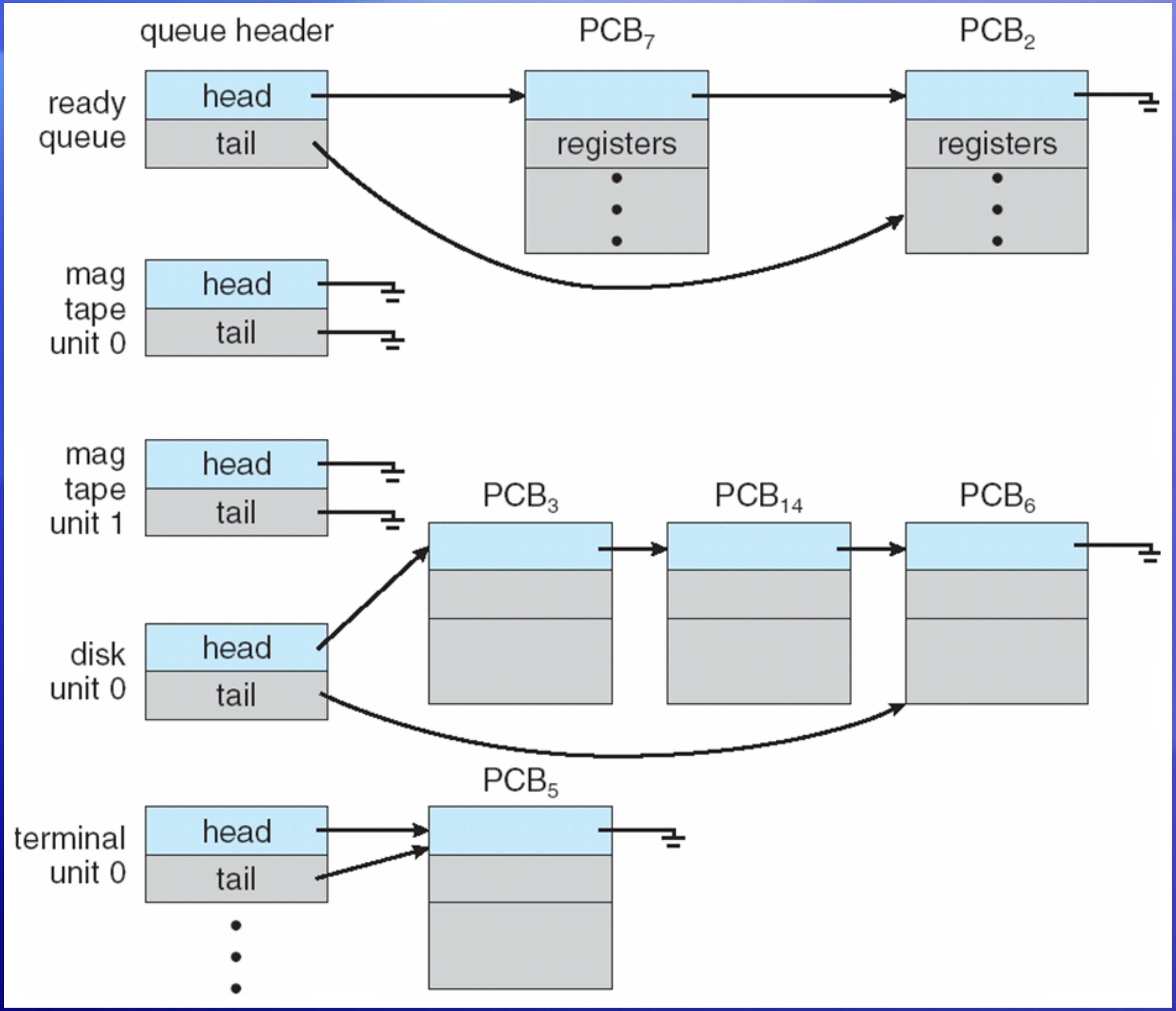
- Memory-management information.

This information may include such items as the value of the base and limit registers and the page tables, or the segment tables, depending on the memory system used by the operating system

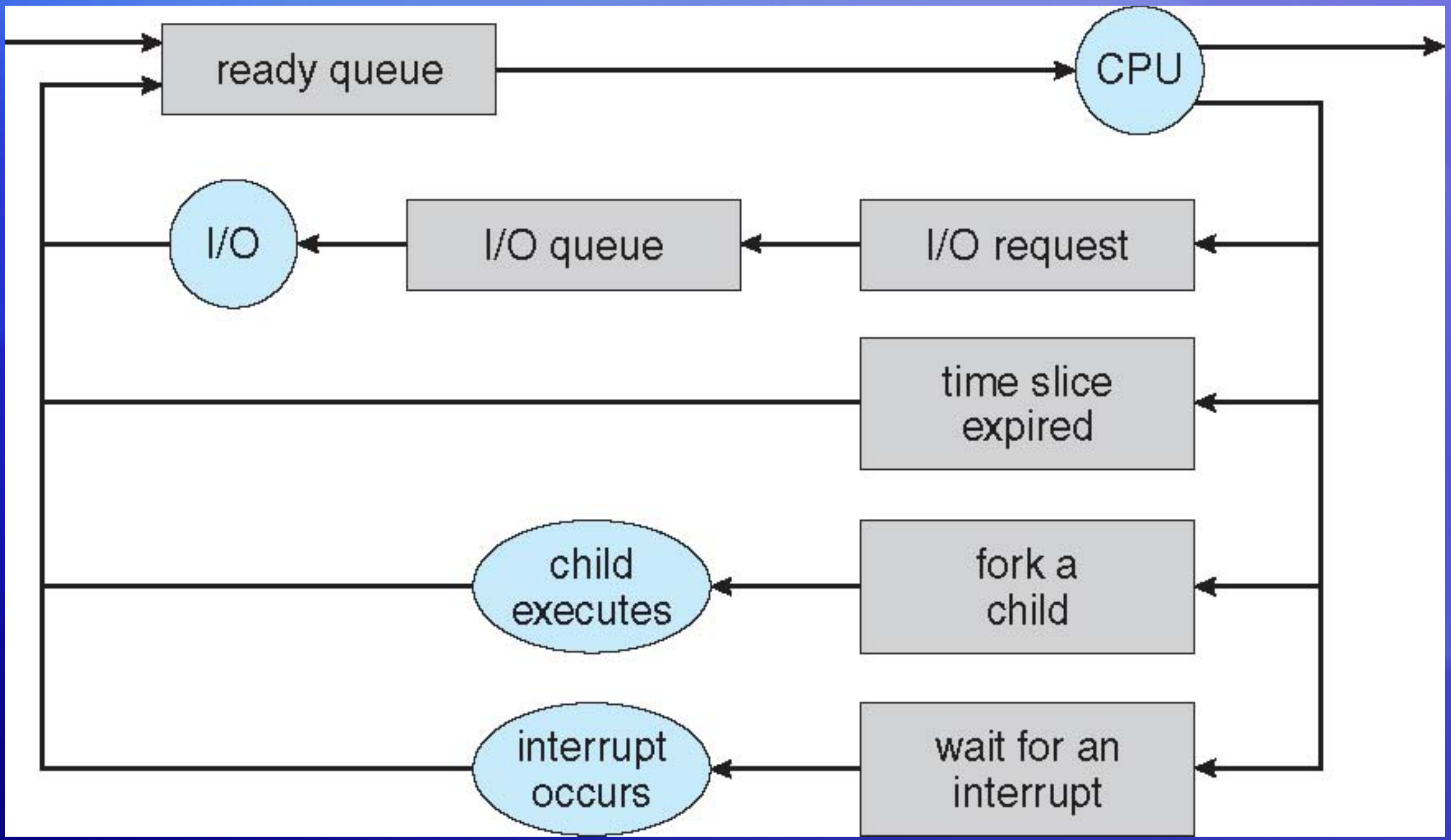
Process Scheduling

- Maximize CPU use, quickly switch processes onto CPU for time sharing
- **Process scheduler** selects among available processes for next execution on CPU
- Maintains **scheduling queues** of processes
  - **Job queue** – set of all processes in the system
  - **Ready queue** – set of all processes residing in main memory, ready and waiting to execute
  - **Device queues** – set of processes waiting for an I/O device
  - Processes migrate among the various queues

Ready Queue And Various Device Queues



Representation of Process Scheduling



Schedulers

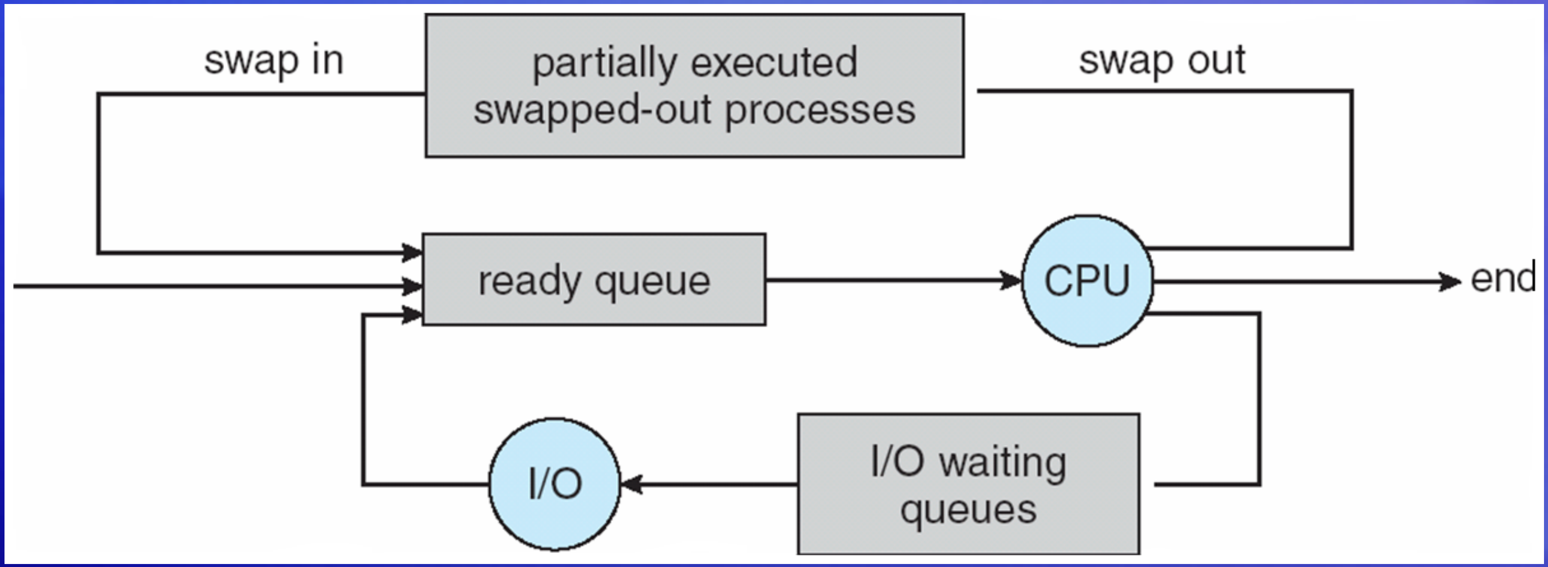
- **Long-term scheduler** (or job scheduler) – selects which processes should be brought into the ready queue
- **Short-term scheduler** (or CPU scheduler) – selects which process should be executed next and allocates CPU. Sometimes the only scheduler in a system

Schedulers (Cont.)

- Short-term scheduler is invoked very frequently (milliseconds) $\Rightarrow$ (must be fast)
- Long-term scheduler is invoked very infrequently (seconds, minutes) $\Rightarrow$ (may be slow)
- The long-term scheduler controls the *degree of multiprogramming*

- Processes can be described as either:
  - **I/O-bound process** – spends more time doing I/O than computations, many short CPU bursts
  - **CPU-bound process** – spends more time doing computations; few very long CPU bursts

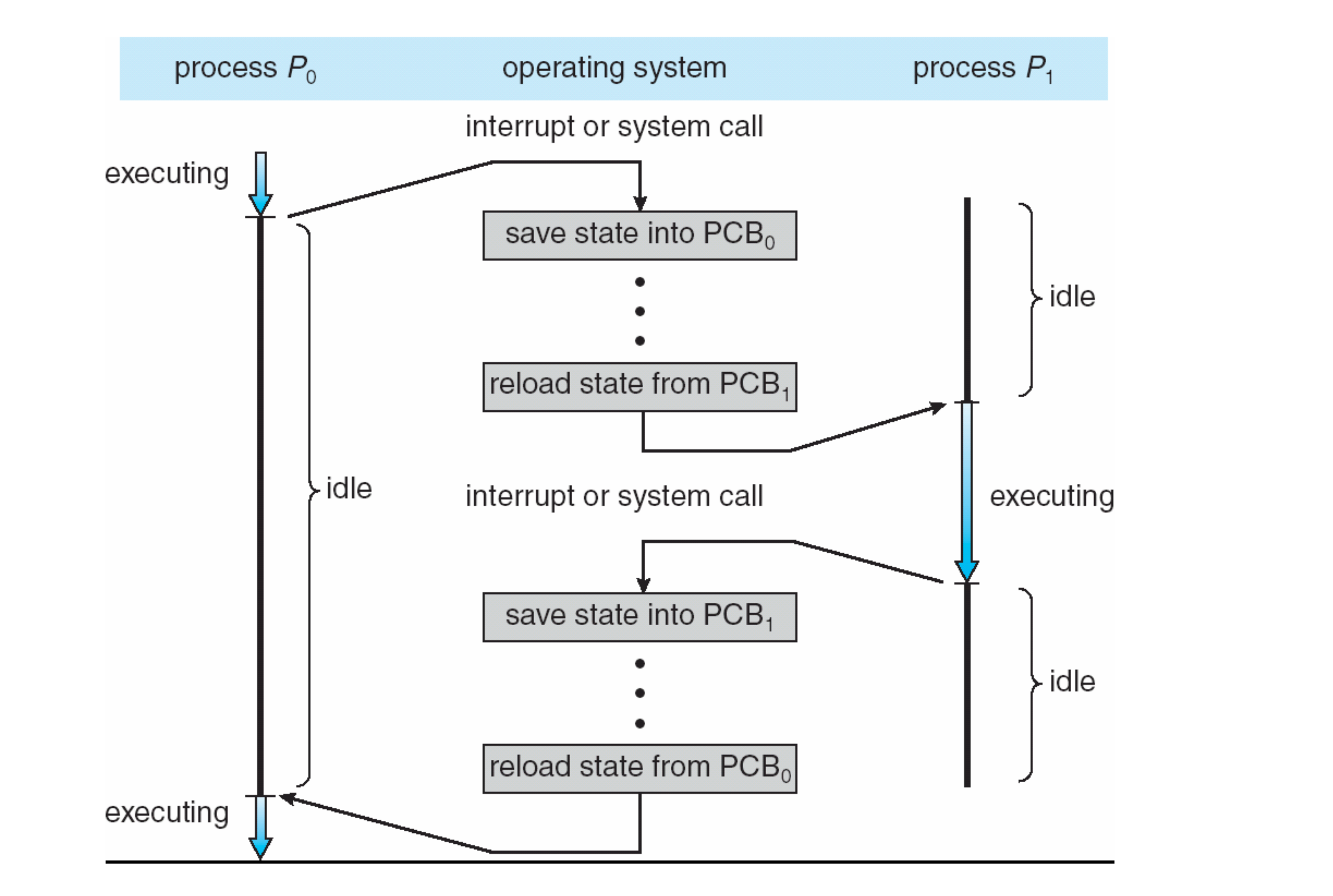
Addition of Medium Term Scheduling



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 via a **context switch**.
- **Context** of a process represented in the PCB
- Context-switch time is overhead; the system does no useful work while switching
  - The more complex the OS and the PCB -> longer the context switch
- Time dependent on hardware support
  - Some hardware provides multiple sets of registers per CPU -> multiple contexts loaded at once

CPU Switch Between Processes



Manage your mailbox V: Retrieve,
back up, or share messages

Process Creation

- **Parent** process create **children** processes, which, in turn create other processes, forming a tree of processes

- Generally, process identified and managed via **a process identifier** (**pid**)

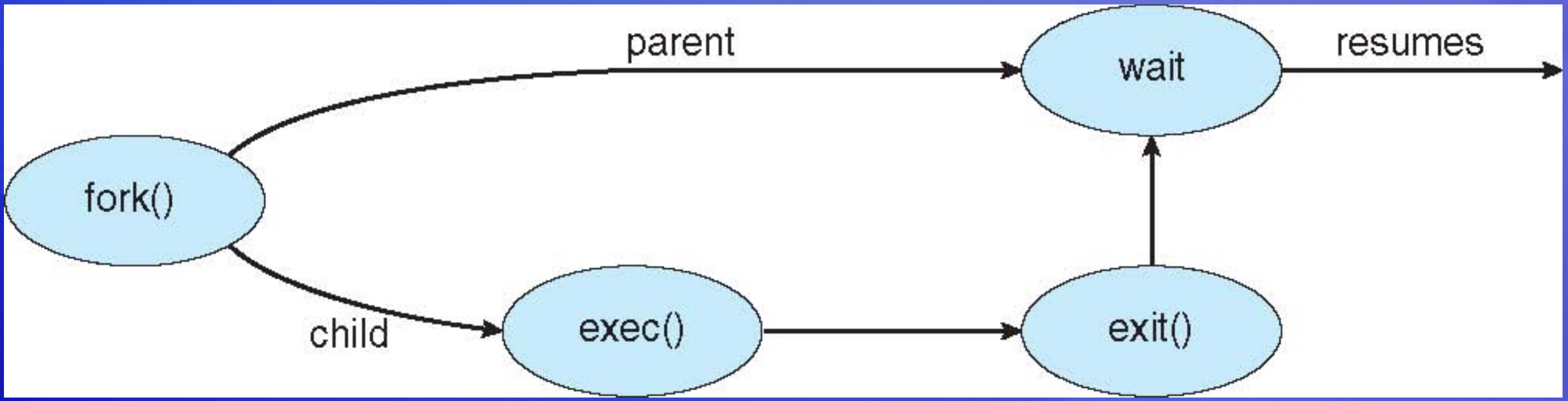
- Resource sharing
  - Parent and children share all resources
  - Children share subset of parent's resources
  - Parent and child share no resources

- Execution
  - Parent and children execute concurrently
  - Parent waits until children terminate

Process Creation (Cont.)

- Address space
  - Child duplicate of parent
  - Child has a program loaded into it
- UNIX examples
  - **fork** system call creates new process
  - **exec** system call used after a **fork** to replace the process' memory space with a new program

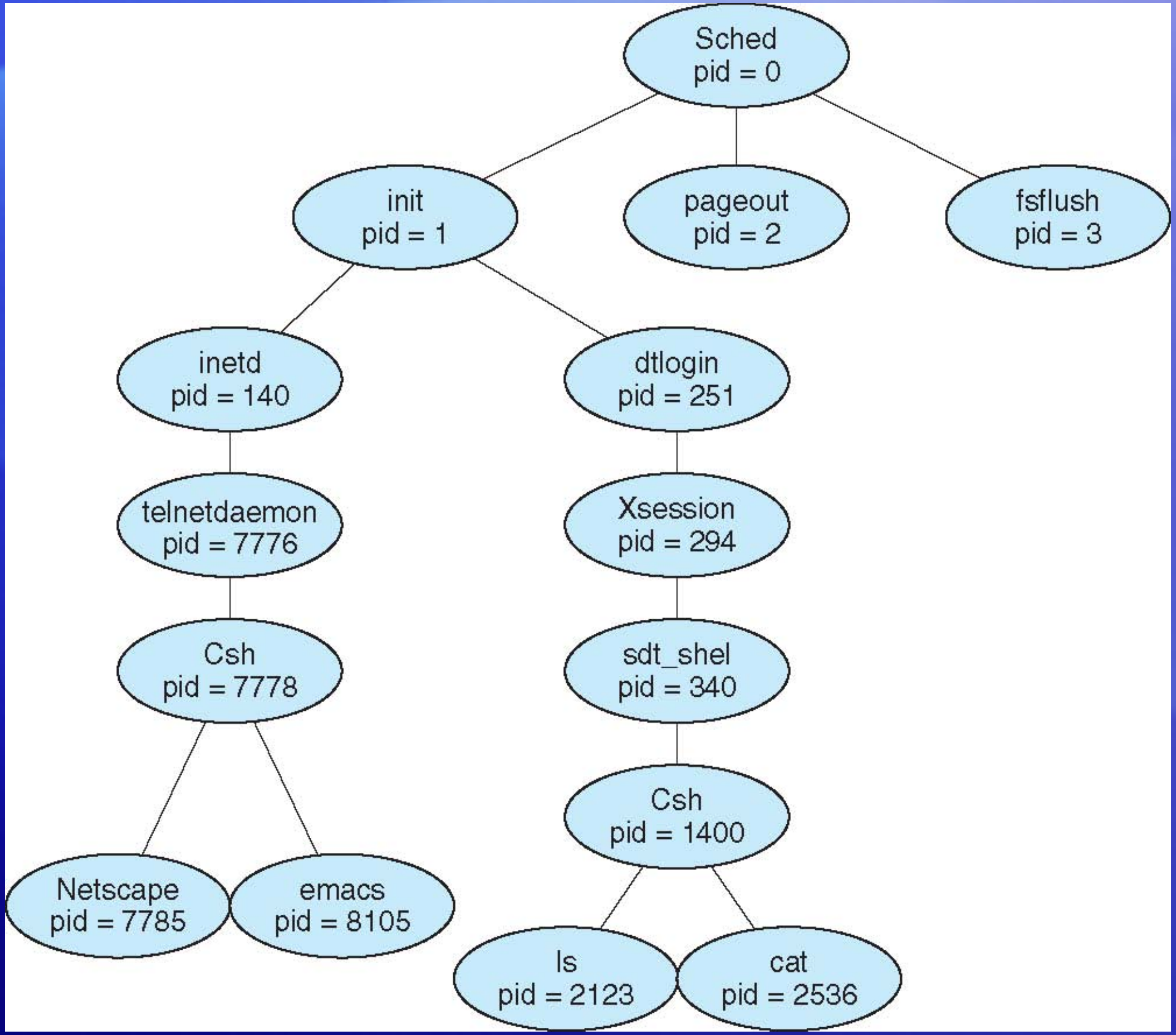
Process Creation



C Program Forking Separate Process

```
#include <sys/types.h>
#include <studio.h>
#include <unistd.h>
int main()
{
pid_t  pid;
    /* fork another process */
    pid = fork();
    if (pid < 0) { /* error occurred */
          fprintf(stderr, "Fork Failed");
          return 1;
    }
    else if (pid == 0) { /* child process */
          execlp("/bin/ls", "ls", NULL);
    }
    else { /* parent process */
          /* parent will wait for the child */
          wait (NULL);
          printf ("Child Complete");
    }
    return 0;
}
```

A Tree of Processes on Solaris



Process Termination

- Process executes last statement and asks the operating system to delete it (**exit**)
  - Output data from child to parent (via **wait**)
  - Process’ resources are deallocated by operating system

- Parent may terminate execution of children processes (**abort**)
  - Child has exceeded allocated resources
  - Task assigned to child is no longer required
  - If parent is exiting
    - Some operating systems do not allow child to continue if its parent terminates
    - All children terminated - **cascading termination**

Co-operating Process

- Processes within a system may be **independent** or **cooperating**
- Cooperating process can affect or be affected by other processes, including sharing data
- Reasons for cooperating processes:
  - Information sharing
  - Computation speedup
  - Modularity
  - Convenience
- Cooperating processes need **interprocess communication (IPC)**

  Two models of IPC
    - Shared memory
    - Message passing

Reference Book

“Operating System Concepts” by Silberchartz, Galvin, Gagne, Wiley India Publications.