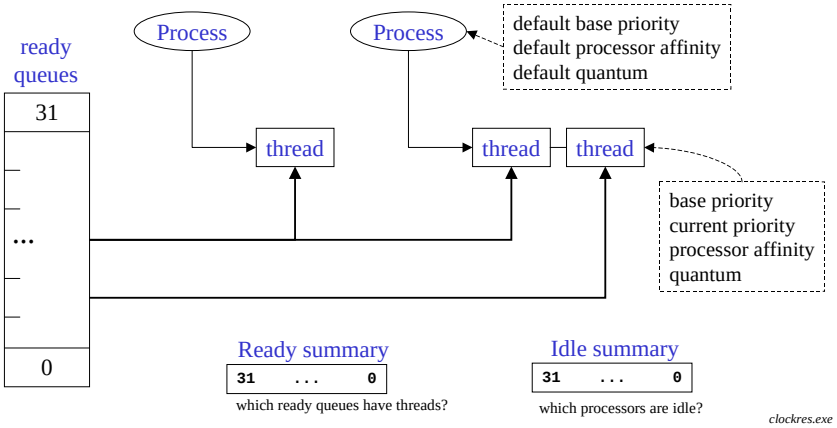
Scheduling (Win 2K)

CSE 410 - Computer Systems
November 21, 2001

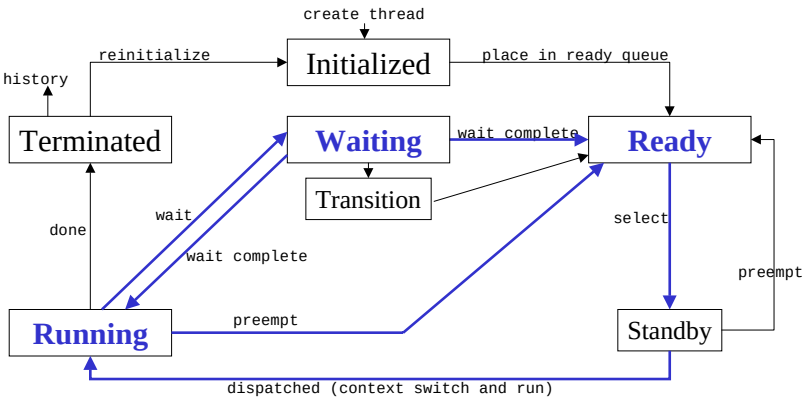
Readings and References

- Reading
  - Chapter 6, Section 6.7.2, *Operating System Concepts*, Silberschatz, Galvin, and Gagne
- Other References
  - Chapter 6, Section "Thread Scheduling", *Inside Microsoft Windows 2000*, Third Edition, Solomon and Russinovich. This book is the source of most of today's lecture.
  - Chapter 6, Performance Monitoring, *Windows 2000 Professional Resource Kit*, Microsoft

Dispatcher "database"



Thread State Transitions

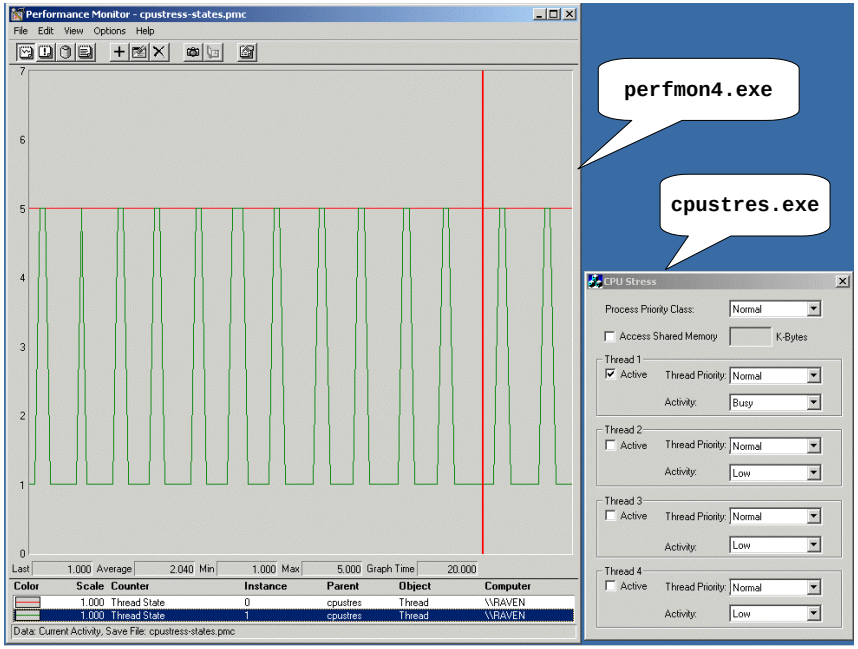


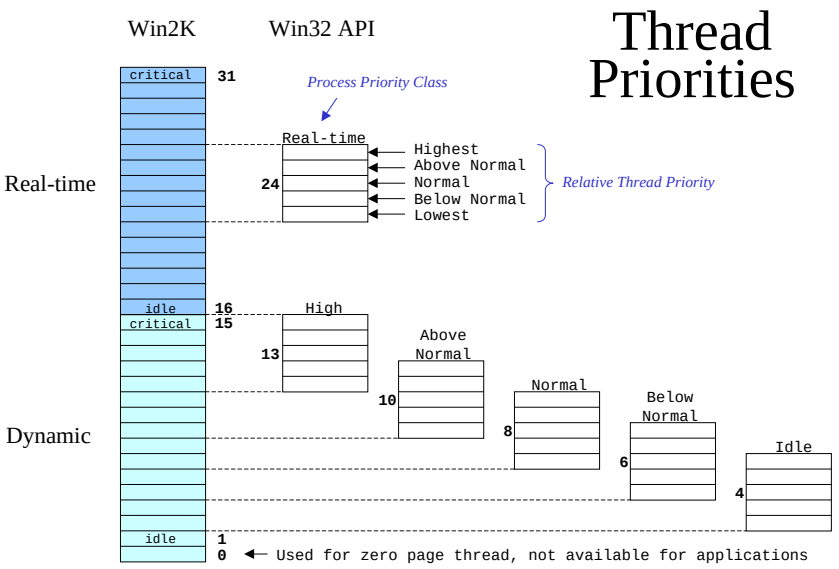
Ready, Running, Waiting

- Ready
  - › ready to run if there is a processor available
  - › there is a ready queue for each priority level
- Running
  - › has been switched to and is running
- Waiting
  - › waiting on an event (synchronize, I/O, etc)

Other States

- Initialized
  - › On its way in the door
- Terminated
  - › On its way out the door to history or recycle
- Standby
  - › Ready and selected to run next
- Transition
  - › Ready, but important parts are paged out



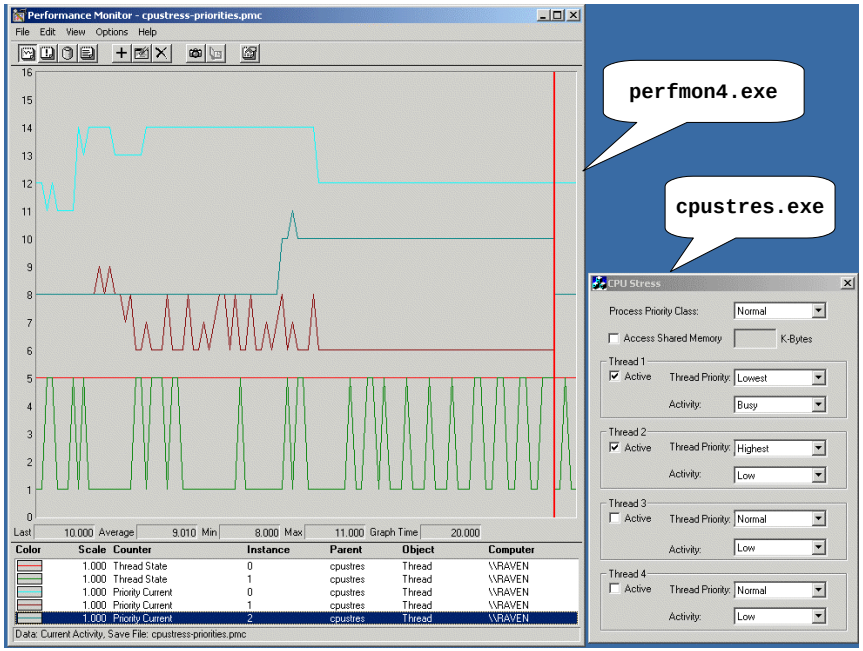


Setting Thread Priorities

- Base priority
  - › normally inherited from process default
  - › can be explicitly set
- Current priority
  - › starts out same as base
  - › real time never changes
  - › dynamic is boosted when appropriate for responsiveness

Priority boosting

- After I/O completion or event wait
  - › you've waited for this data, now use it quick
- User response
  - › Foreground thread after a wait or window thread wakeup for window event
- CPU starvation
  - › found an aging thread on the ready queues
- The boost decays quickly over time



Quantum

- Thread Quantum is
  - › indicator of the amount of time a thread can run before W2K checks whether another thread at the same priority should get to run
- Each thread has a current quantum value
  - › a small integer that is decremented under various circumstances
  - › not an actual length of time, just a number

Quantum value

- Thread quantum is initialized when thread is put on the ready queue
  - › initial value of 6 on Windows 2K Professional
  - › initial value of 36 on Windows 2K Server
- Quantum of running thread is decremented by 3 after system clock interrupt
  - › so a W2K Pro thread can run for 2 clock intervals
  - › a W2K Server thread can run for 12 clock intervals

Quantum is reset to initial value

- a thread moves to ready queue after quantum end
  - › in other words, a thread is given another chunk of time to use after it has exhausted the first chunk
- a real-time thread is preempted and moves from running to ready or it moves from running to wait
  - › the presumption is that you are doing a good job of explicitly managing priorities and access to the CPU when you are running real-time threads

Quantum changes

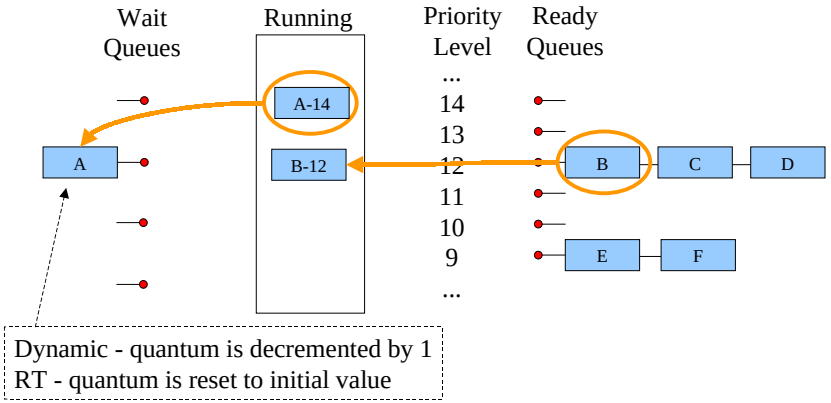
- Quantum is decremented
  - › reduced quantum => less time remaining before thread has exhausted its time slice
  - › reduced by 3 when the clock ticks
  - › by 1 when dynamic thread executes a wait
- Quantum initial value may be boosted
  - › “Optimize performance for applications”

  => boost initial quantum for foreground threads

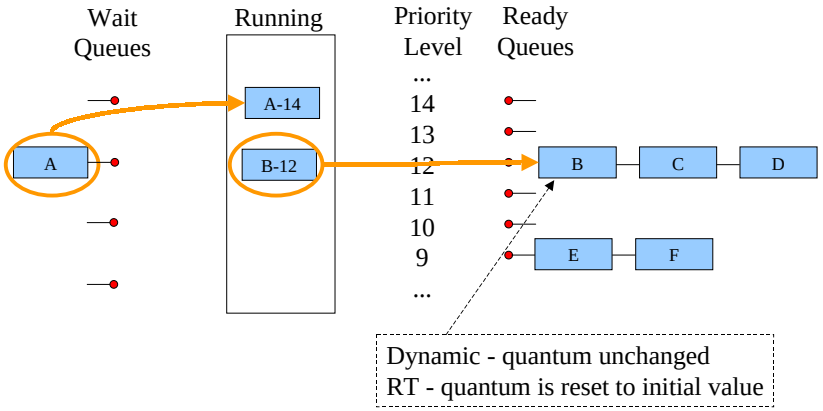
Scheduling Scenarios

- Voluntary switch
  - › thread calls a wait function of some sort
- Preemption
  - › higher priority thread is ready to run
- Quantum end
  - › the running thread exhausts its quantum

Voluntary Switch



Preemption



Quantum End