I.-C. Lin, Assistant Professor. Textbook: Operating System Concepts 8ed

CHAPTER 3: PROCESSES-CONCEPT

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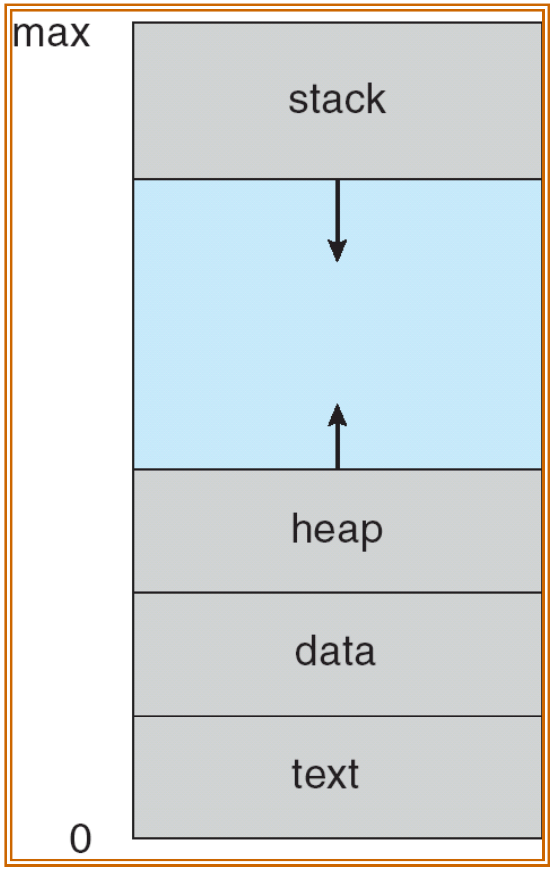
- Overview
- Process Scheduling
- Operations on Processes
- Interprocess Communication
- Examples of IPC Systems
- Communication in Client-Server Systems

Process Concept

- An operating system executes a variety of programs:
  - Batch system – jobs
  - Time-shared systems – user programs or tasks
- Textbook uses 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
  - ……

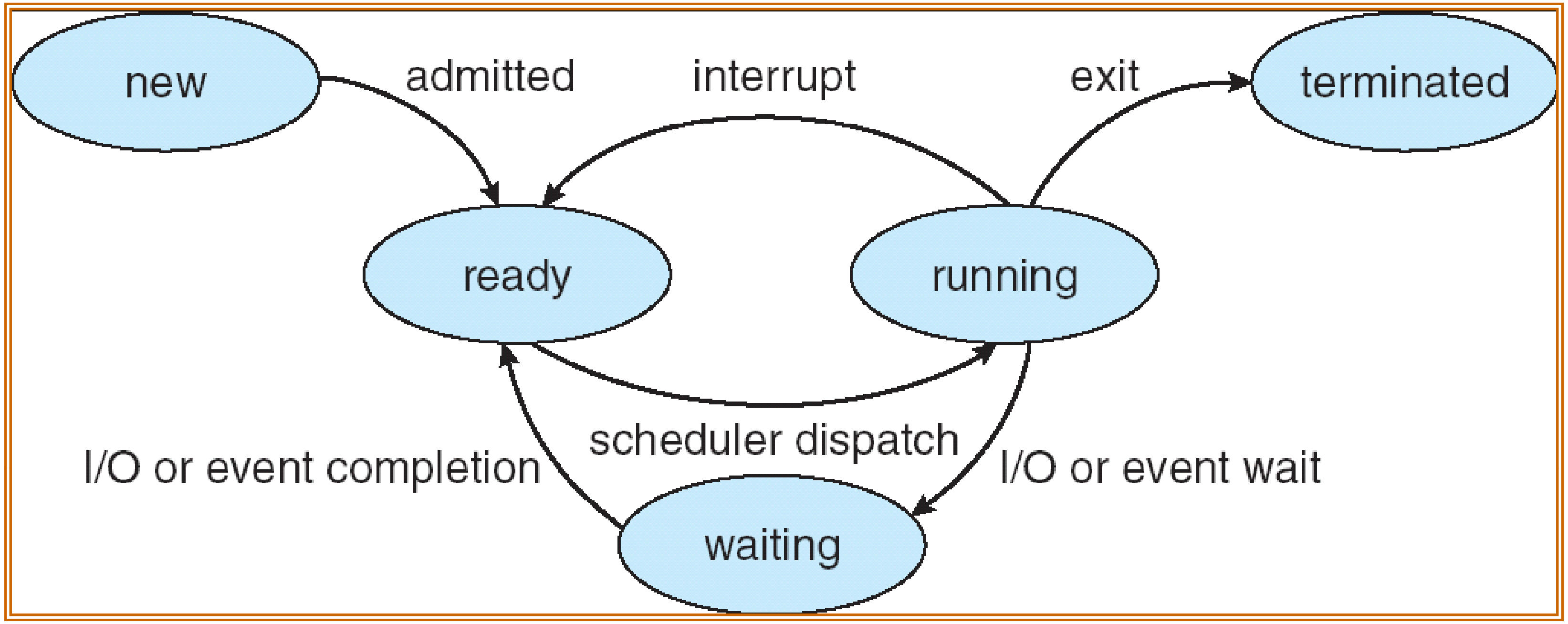
Process in Memory



Process State

- 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 process
  - **terminated**: The process has finished execution

Diagram of Process State

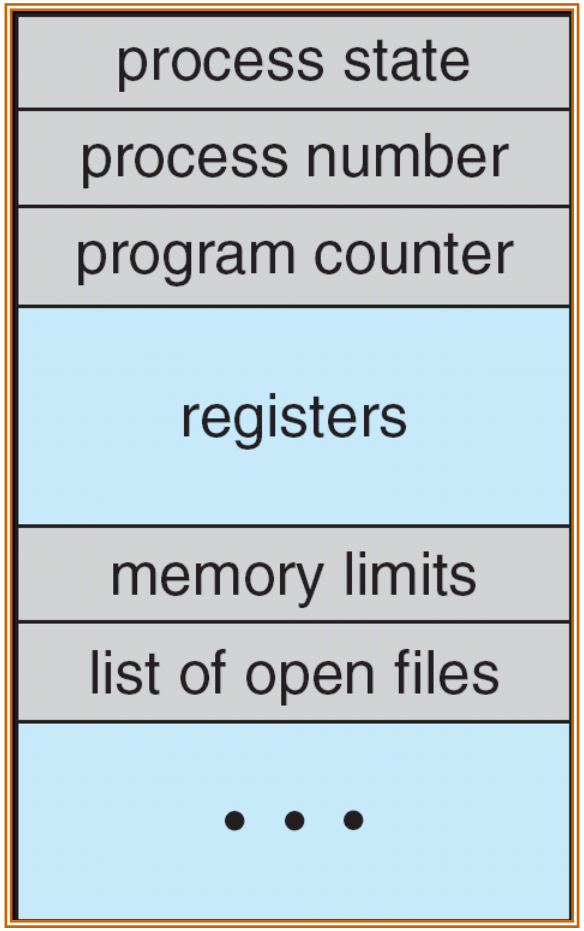


Process Control Block (PCB)

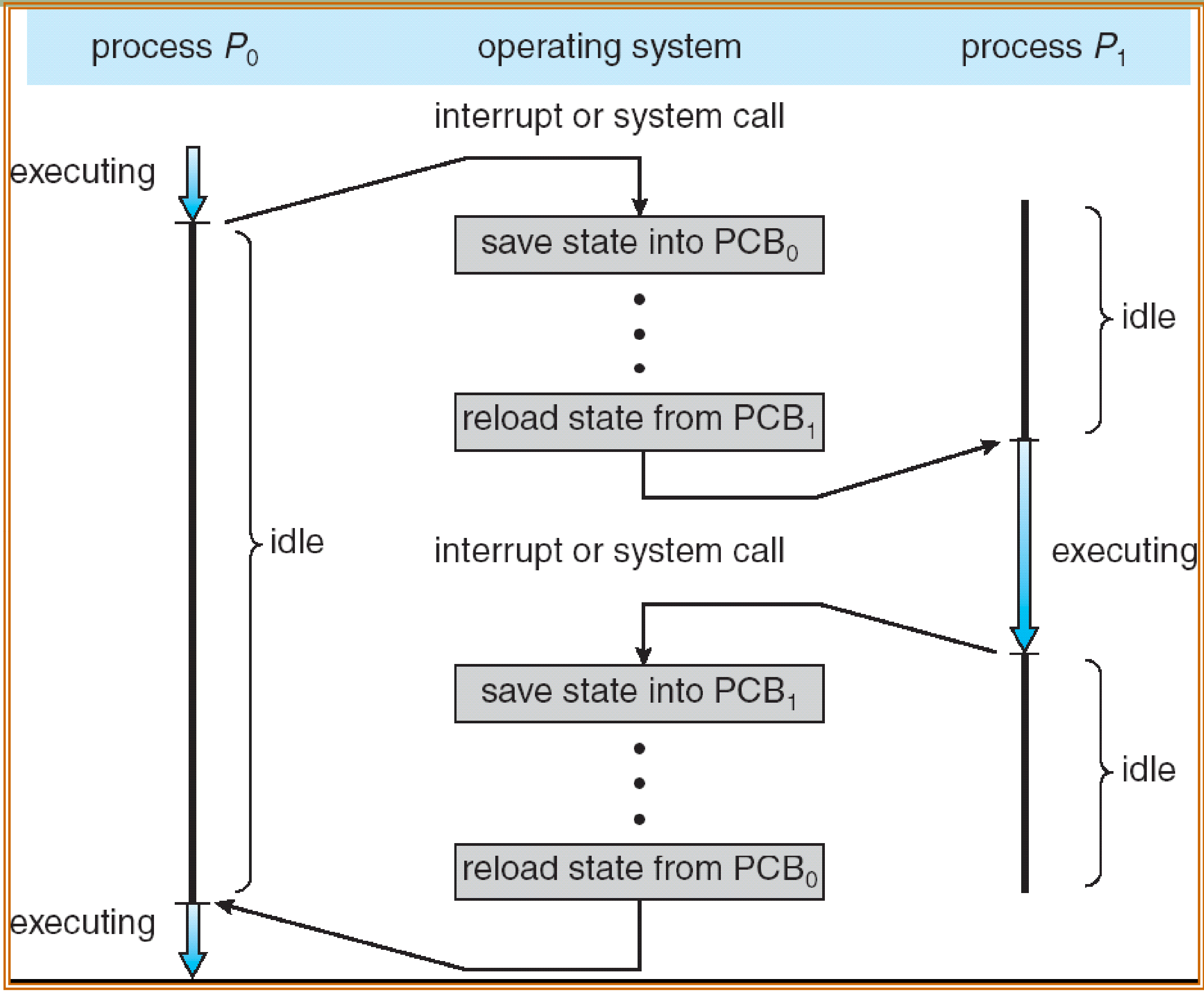
Information associated with each process

- Process state
- Program counter
- CPU registers
- CPU scheduling information
- Memory-management information
- Accounting information
- I/O status information

Process Control Block (PCB)



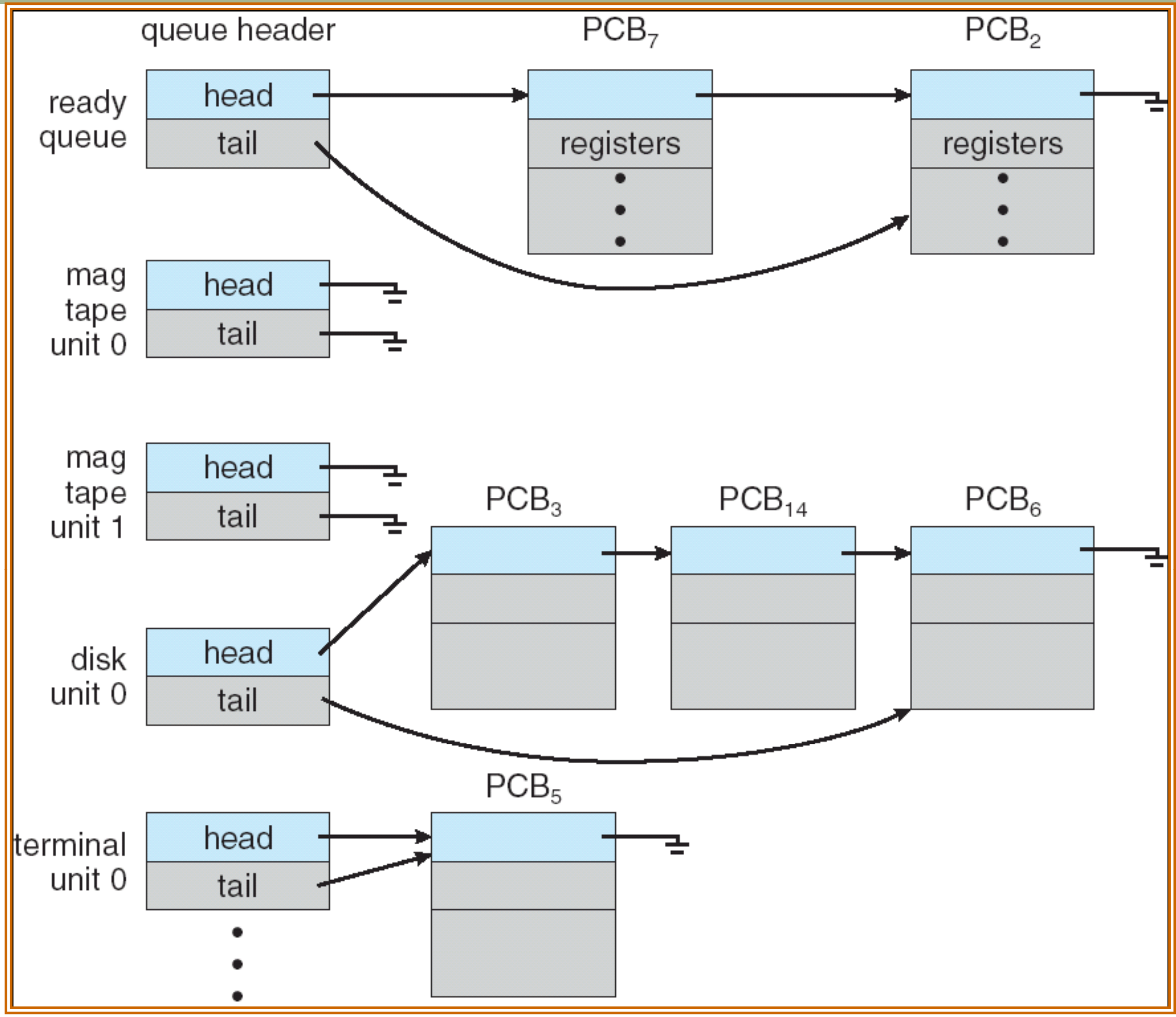
CPU Switch From Process to Process



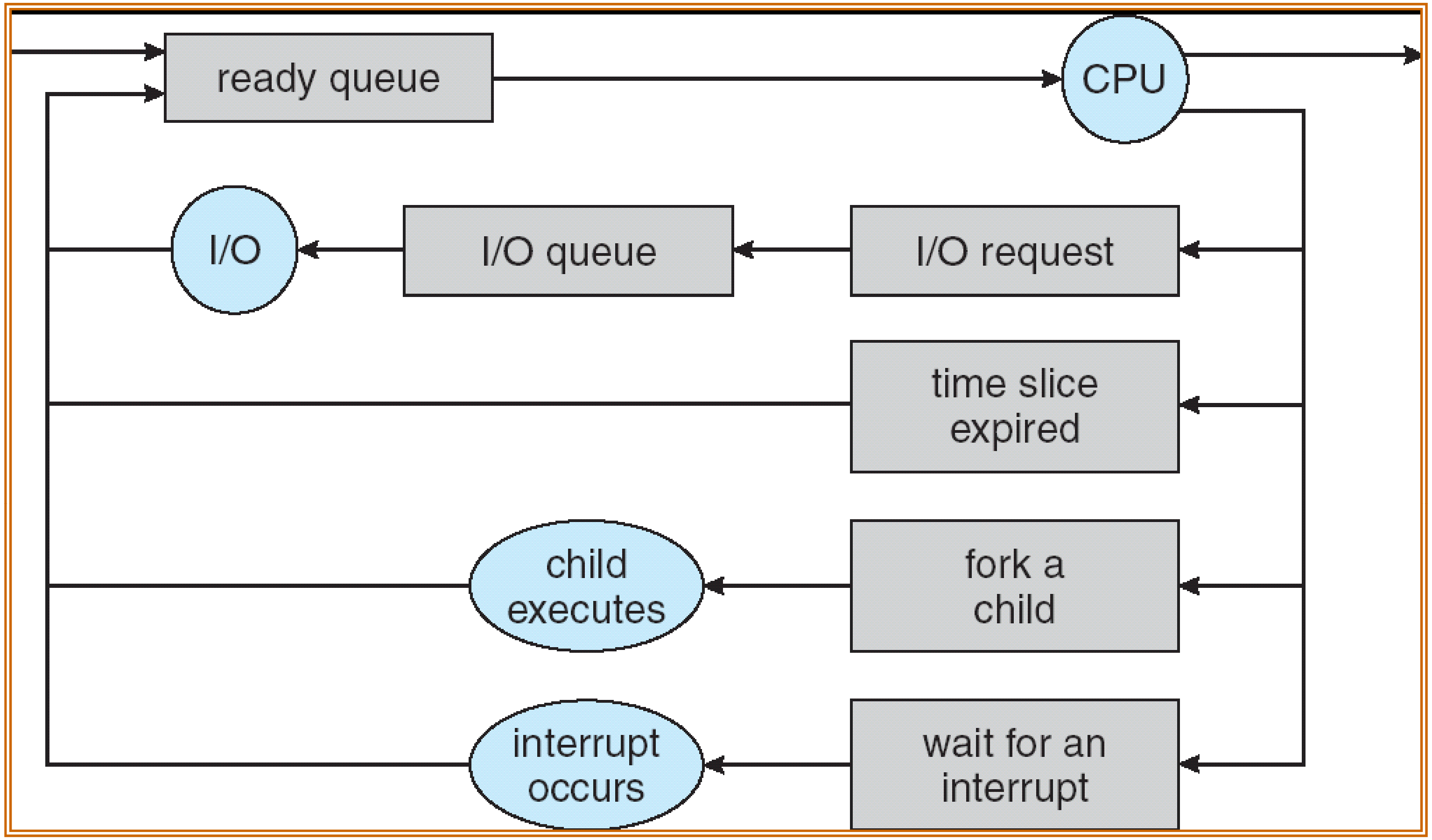
Process Scheduling Queues

- **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 I/O Device Queues



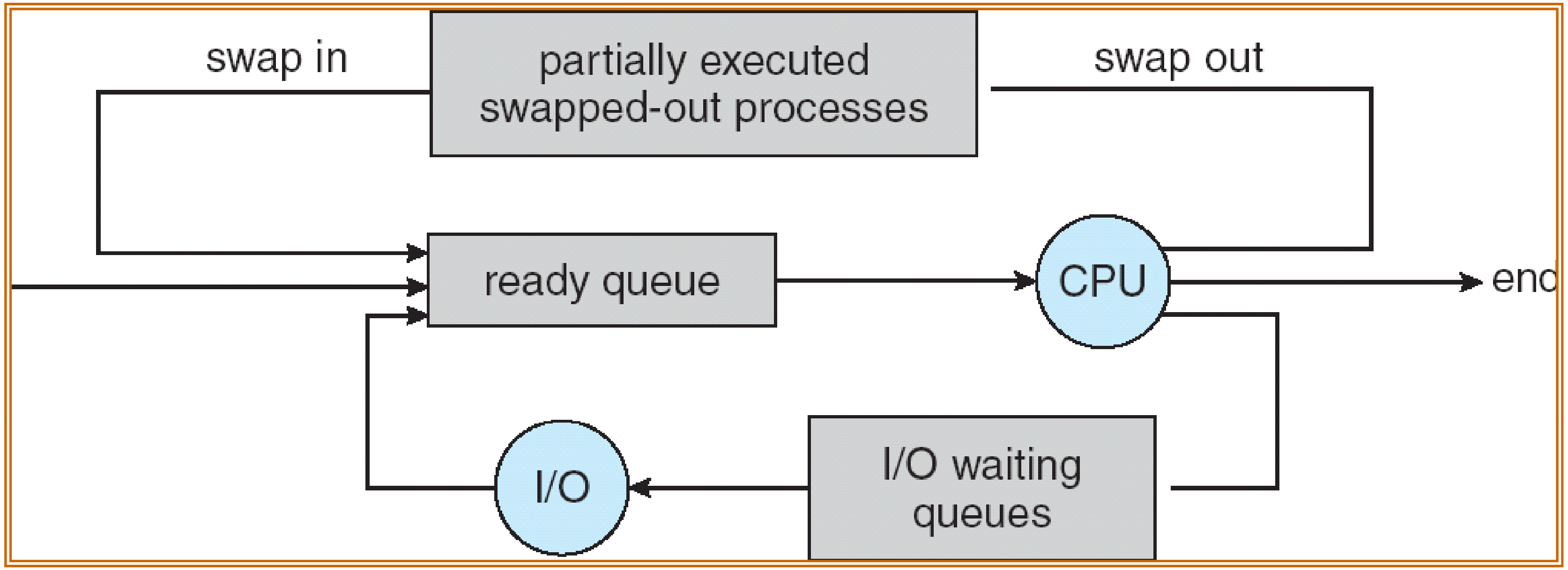
Representation of Process Scheduling



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

Addition of Medium Term Scheduling



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

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

Process Creation

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

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

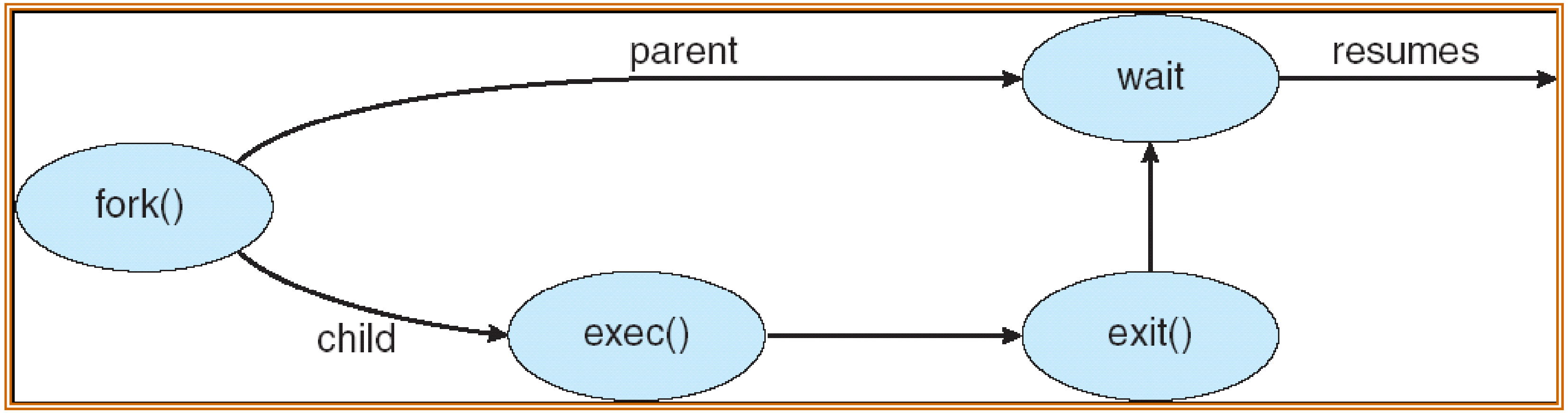
- Execution
  - Parent and children execute concurrently
  - Parent waits until children terminate

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

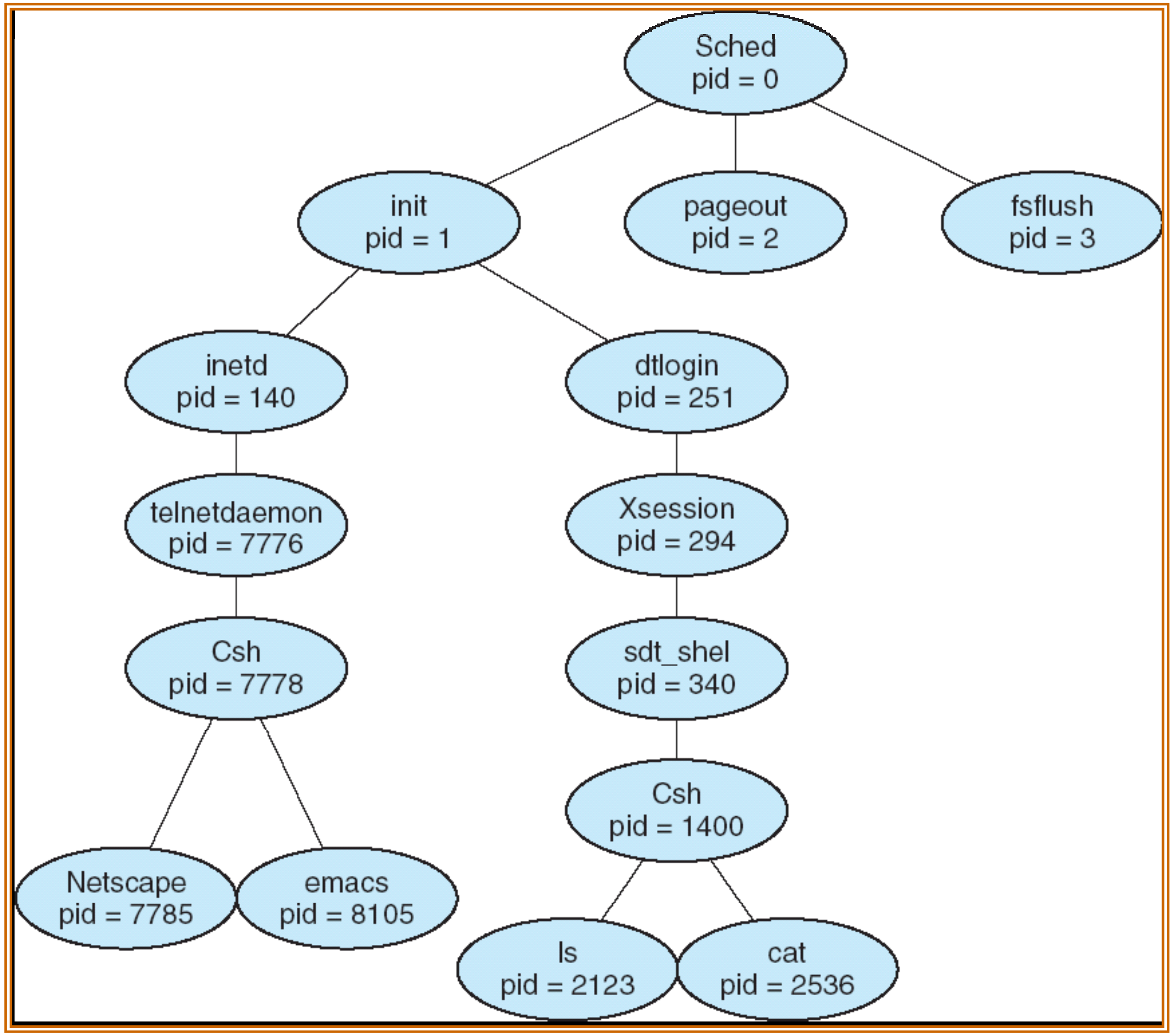
Process Creation



C Program Forking Separate Process

```
int main()
{
Pid_t  pid;
    /* fork another process */
    pid = fork();
    if (pid < 0) { /* error occurred */
            fprintf(stderr, "Fork Failed");
            exit(-1);
    }
    else if (pid == 0) { /* child process */
            execlp("/bin/ls", "ls", NULL);
    }
    else { /* parent process */
            /* parent will wait for the child to complete */
            wait (NULL);
            printf ("Child Complete");
            exit(0);
    }
}
```

A tree of processes on a typical Solaris



Process Termination

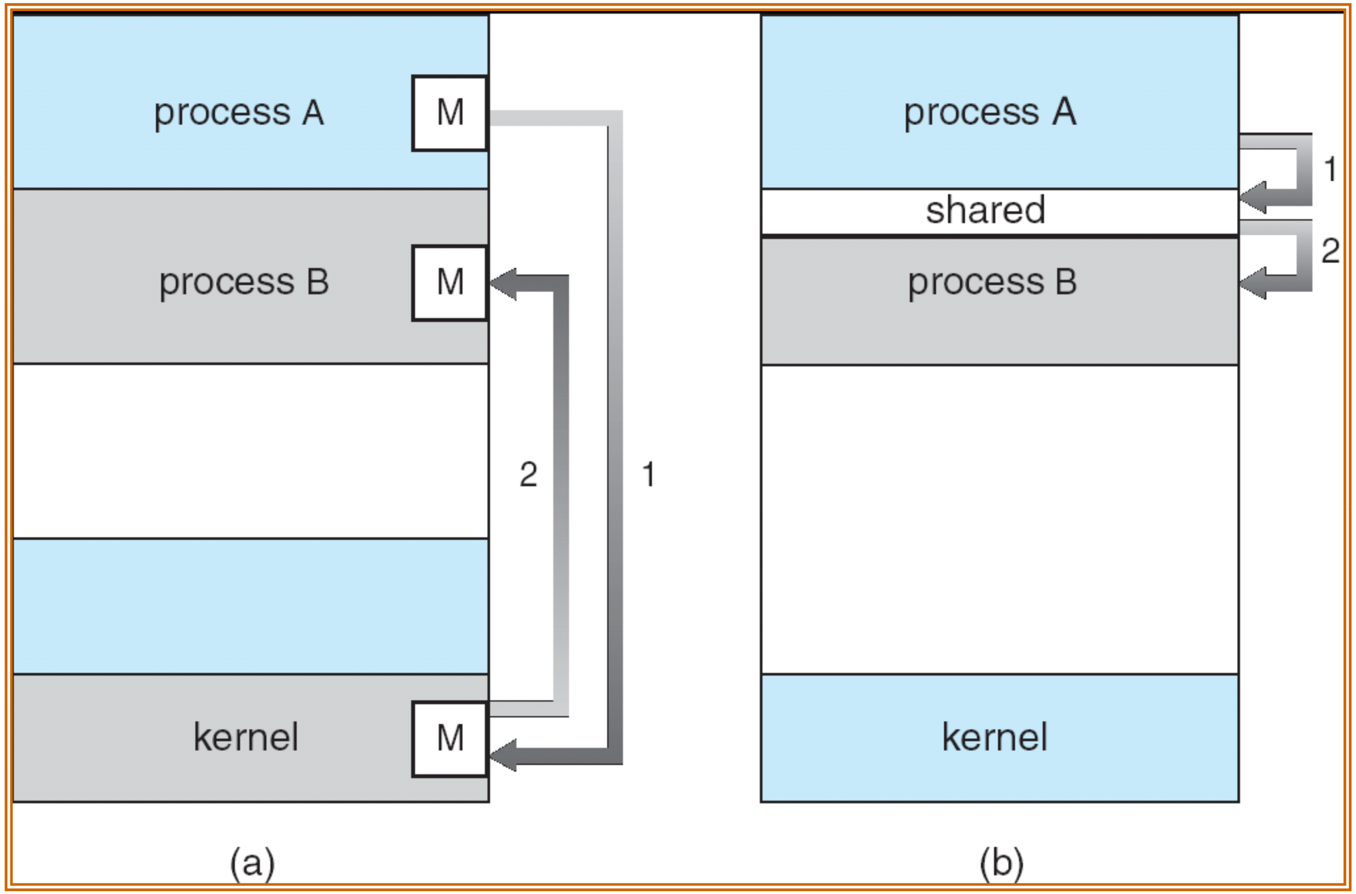
- Process executes last statement and asks the operating system to delete it (**exit**)
  - Output data from child to parent (via **wait**)
  - Process' resources are deallocated by operating system

- 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 system do not allow child to continue if its parent terminates
      - All children terminated - *cascading termination*

Interprocess Communication

- **Independent** process:
  - cannot affect or be affected by the execution of another process
- **Cooperating** process:
  - can affect or be affected by the execution of another process
- Advantages of process cooperation
  - Information sharing
  - Computation speed-up
  - Modularity
  - Convenience
- Cooperating processes need interprocess communication (IPC)
  - Two models of IPC
    - Shared memory
    - Message passing

Communications Models



Producer-Consumer Problem

- Paradigm for cooperating processes, *producer* process produces information that is consumed by a *consumer* process

  - *unbounded-buffer* places no practical limit on the size of the buffer

  - *bounded-buffer* assumes that there is a fixed buffer size

Bounded-Buffer – Shared-Memory Solution

- Shared data

```
#define BUFFER_SIZE 10
Typedef struct {
   . . .
} item;

item buffer[BUFFER_SIZE];
int in = 0;
int out = 0;
```

Bounded-Buffer – Insert() Method

```
while (true) {
  /* Produce an item */
   while ( (in = (in + 1) % BUFFER SIZE)  == out)
    ;   /* do nothing -- no free buffers */
   buffer[in] = item;
   in = (in + 1) % BUFFER SIZE;
 }
```

Bounded Buffer – Remove() Method

```
while (true) {
     while (in == out)
          ; // do nothing -- nothing to consume

    // remove an item from the buffer
    item = buffer[out];
    out = (out + 1) % BUFFER SIZE;
return item;
 }
```

- Solution is correct, but can only use BUFFER_SIZE-1 elements

Interprocess Communication (IPC)

- Mechanism for processes to communicate and to synchronize their actions
- Message system – processes communicate with each other without resorting to shared variables
- IPC facility provides two operations:
  - **send**(*message*) – message size fixed or variable
  - **receive**(*message*)
- If *P* and Q wish to communicate, they need to:
  - establish a *communication link* between them
  - exchange messages via send/receive
- Implementation of communication link
  - physical (e.g., shared memory, hardware bus)
  - logical (e.g., logical properties)

Implementation Questions

- How are links established?
- Can a link be associated with more than two processes?
- How many links can there be between every pair of communicating processes?

- What is the capacity of a link?
- Is the size of a message that the link can accommodate fixed or variable?
- Is a link unidirectional or bi-directional?

Direct Communication

- Processes must name each other explicitly:
  - **send** (*P, message*) – send a message to process P
  - **receive**(Q, *message*) – receive a message from process Q
- Properties of communication link
  - Links are established automatically
  - A link is associated with exactly one pair of communicating processes
  - Between each pair there exists exactly one link
  - The link may be unidirectional, but is usually bi-directional

Indirect Communication

- Messages are directed and received from mailboxes (also referred to as ports)
  - Each mailbox has a unique id
  - Processes can communicate only if they share a mailbox
- Properties of communication link
  - Link established only if processes share a common mailbox
  - A link may be associated with many processes
  - Each pair of processes may share several communication links
  - Link may be unidirectional or bi-directional

Indirect Communication

- Operations
  - create a new mailbox
  - send and receive messages through mailbox
  - destroy a mailbox

- Primitives are defined as:
  - **send**(*A*, *message*) – send a message to mailbox A
  - **receive**(*A*, *message*) – receive a message from mailbox A

Indirect Communication

- Mailbox sharing
  - P_1, P_2, and P_3 share mailbox A
  - P_1, sends; P_2 and P_3 receive
  - Who gets the message?
- Solutions
  - Allow a link to be associated with at most two processes
  - Allow only one process at a time to execute a receive operation
  - Allow the system to select arbitrarily the receiver. Sender is notified who the receiver was.

Synchronization

- Message passing may be either blocking or non-blocking

- **Blocking** is considered **synchronous**
  - **Blocking send** has the sender block until the message is received
  - **Blocking receive** has the receiver block until a message is available

- **Non-blocking** is considered **asynchronous**
  - **Non-blocking** send has the sender send the message and continue
  - **Non-blocking** receive has the receiver receive a valid message or null

Buffering

- Queue of messages attached to the link; implemented in one of three ways

1. Zero capacity – 0 messages
   Sender must wait for receiver (rendezvous)

2. Bounded capacity – finite length of *n* messages
   Sender must wait if link full

3. Unbounded capacity – infinite length
   Sender never waits

Examples of IPC Systems - POSIX

- POSIX Shared Memory
  - Process first creates shared memory segment

```
segment id = shmget(IPC PRIVATE, size, S IRUSR |
  S IWUSR);
```

  - Process wanting access to that shared memory must attach to it

```
shared memory = (char *) shmat(id, NULL, 0);
```

  - Now the process could write to the shared memory

```
sprintf(shared memory, "Writing to shared
  memory");
```

  - When done a process can detach the shared memory from its address space

```
shmdt(shared memory);
```

Examples of IPC Systems - Mach

- Mach communication is message based
  - Even system calls are messages
  - Each task gets two mailboxes at creation- Kernel and Notify
  - Only three system calls needed for message transfer

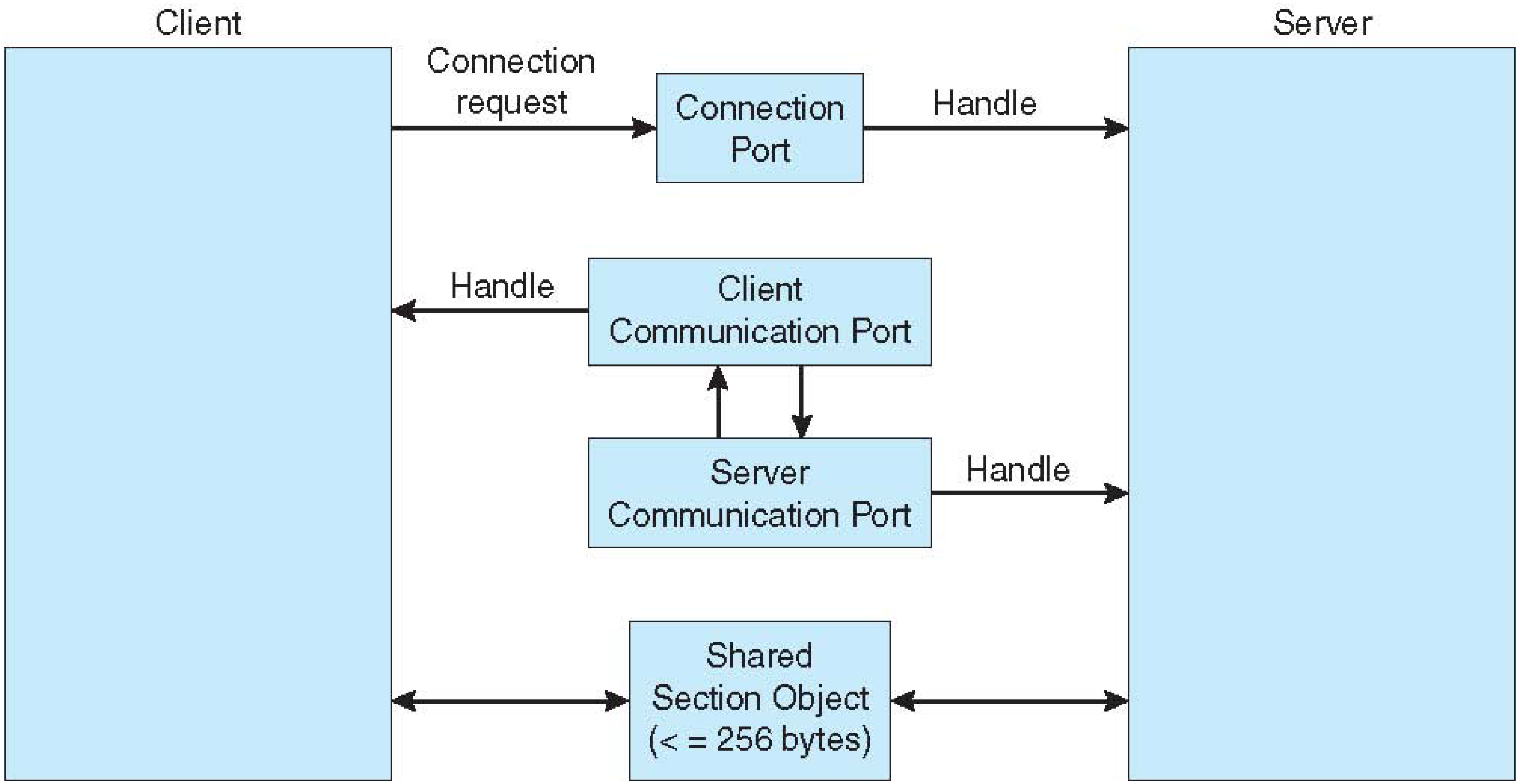
    `msg_send(), msg_receive(), msg_rpc()`
  - Mailboxes needed for commuication, created via

    `port_allocate()`

Examples of IPC Systems – Windows XP

- Message-passing centric via local procedure call (LPC) facility
  - Only works between processes on the same system
  - Uses ports (like mailboxes) to establish and maintain communication channels
  - Communication works as follows:
    - The client opens a handle to the subsystem's connection port object
    - The client sends a connection request
    - The server creates two private communication ports and returns the handle to one of them to the client
    - The client and server use the corresponding port handle to send messages or callbacks and to listen for replies

Local Procedure Calls in Windows XP



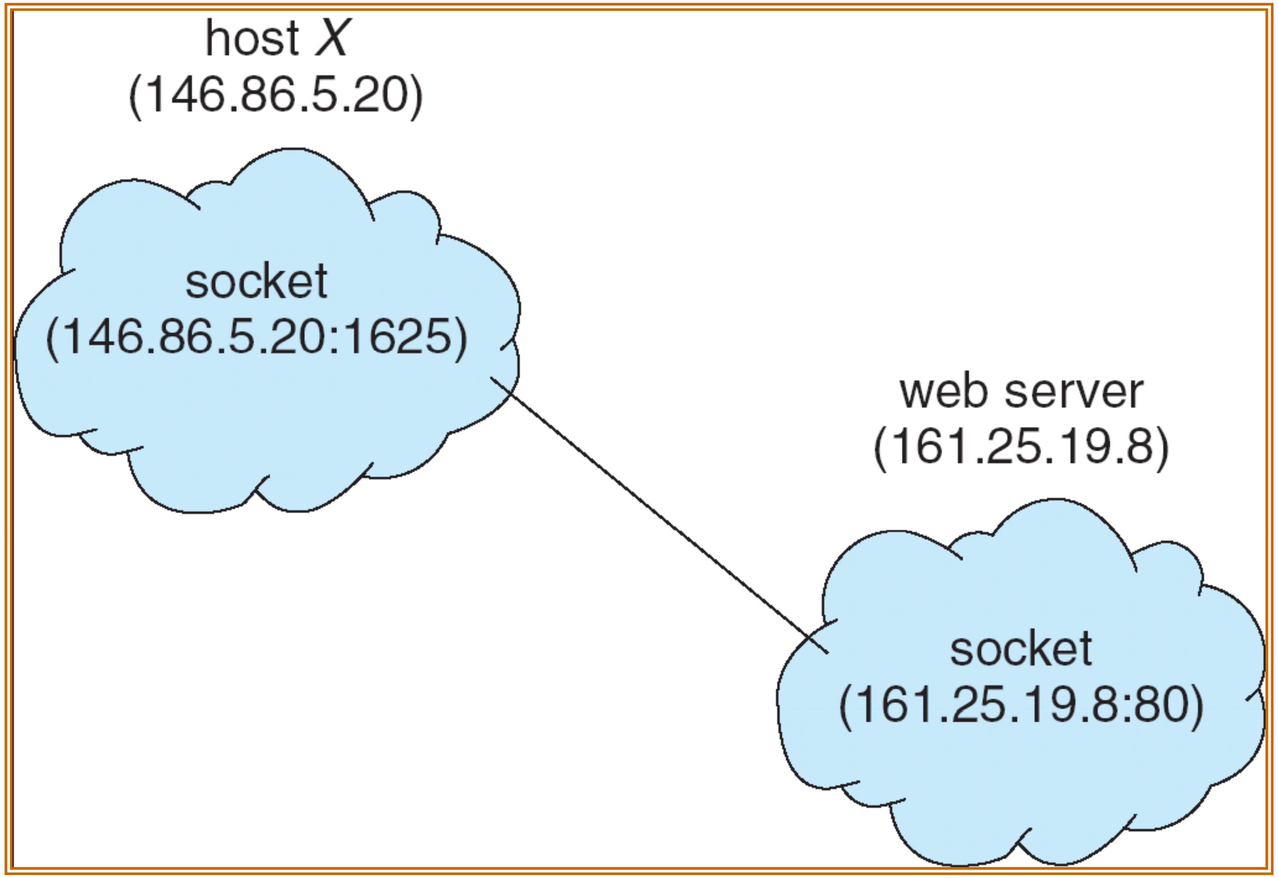
Client-Server Communication

- Sockets
- Remote Procedure Calls
- Remote Method Invocation (Java)

Sockets

- A socket is defined as an *endpoint for communication*
- Concatenation of IP address and port
- The socket **161.25.19.8:1625** refers to port **1625** on host **161.25.19.8**
- Communication consists between a pair of sockets

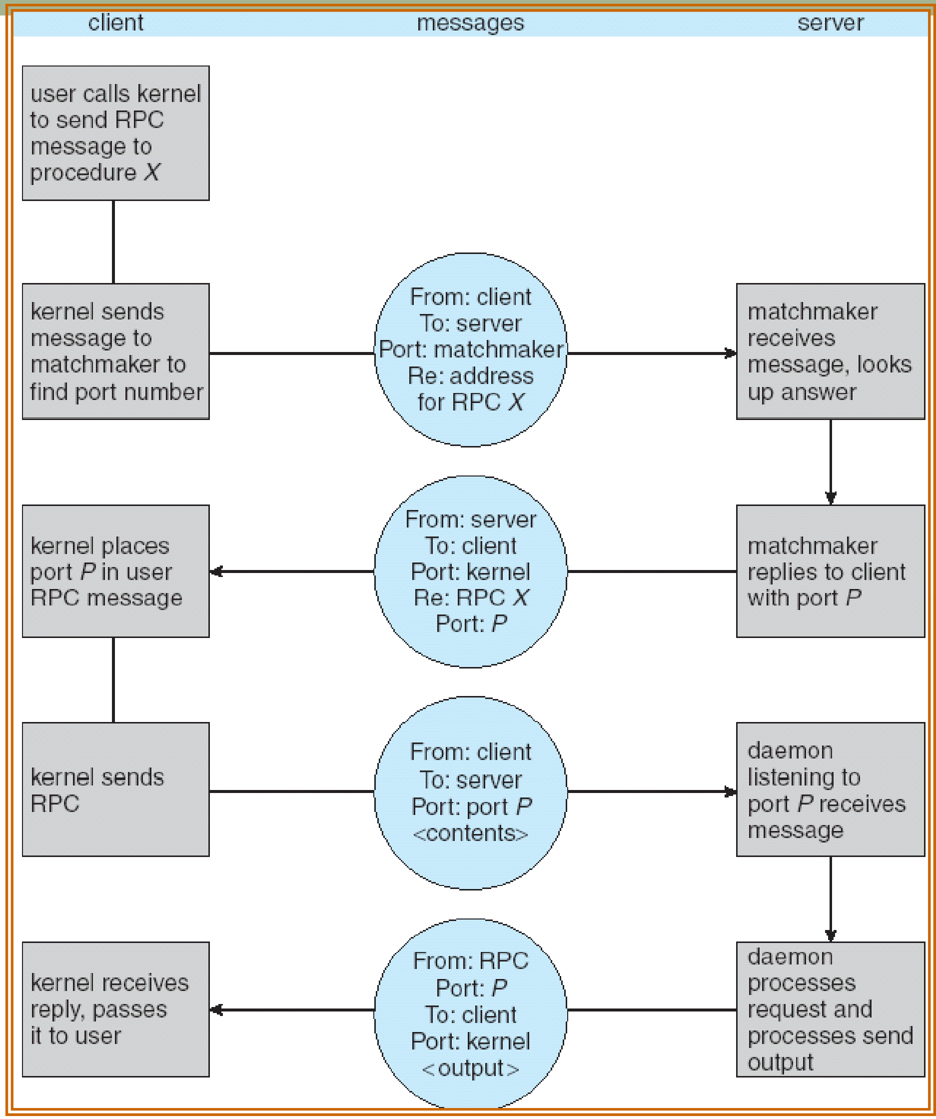
Socket Communication



Remote Procedure Calls

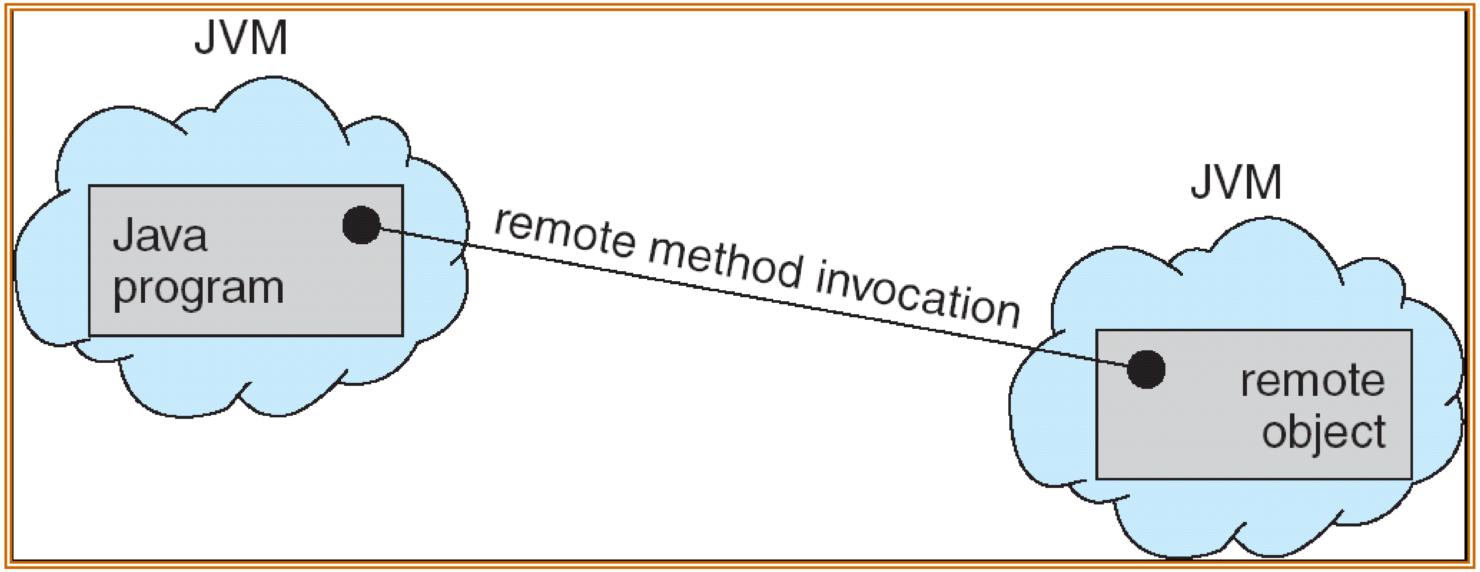
- Remote procedure call (RPC) abstracts procedure calls between processes on networked systems.
- **Stubs** – client-side proxy for the actual procedure on the server.
- The client-side stub locates the server and *marshalls* the parameters.
- The server-side stub receives this message, unpacks the marshalled parameters, and peforms the procedure on the server.

Execution of RPC

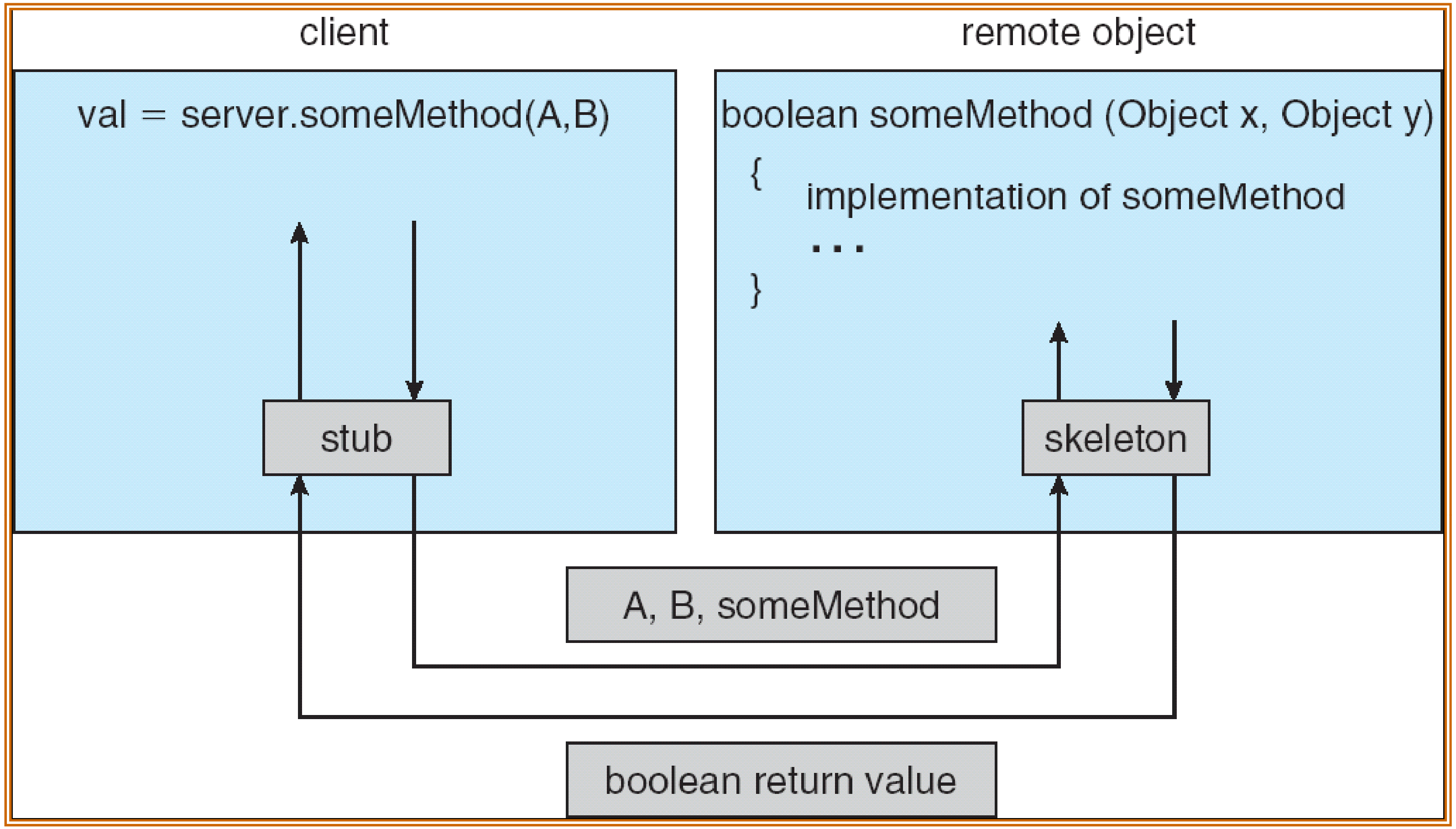


Remote Method Invocation

- Remote Method Invocation (RMI) is a Java mechanism similar to RPCs.
- RMI allows a Java program on one machine to invoke a method on a remote object.



Marshalling Parameters



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