

Process Management

process

- unit of work
- program in execution
- active entity

program

- executable code
- passive entity

operating system processes execute system code
user processes execute user code

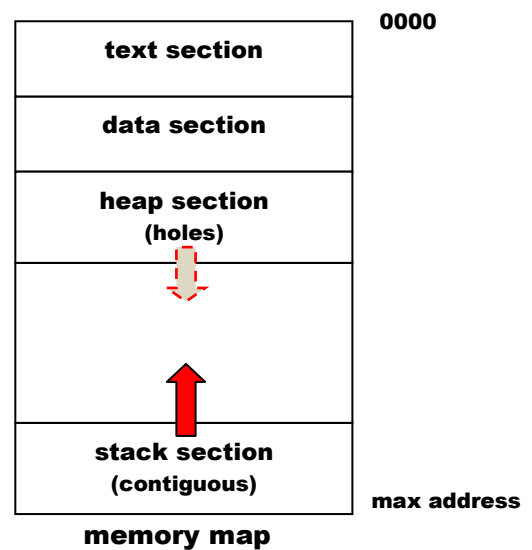
batch system – jobs

time-share system – tasks, user programs

single user system – tasks

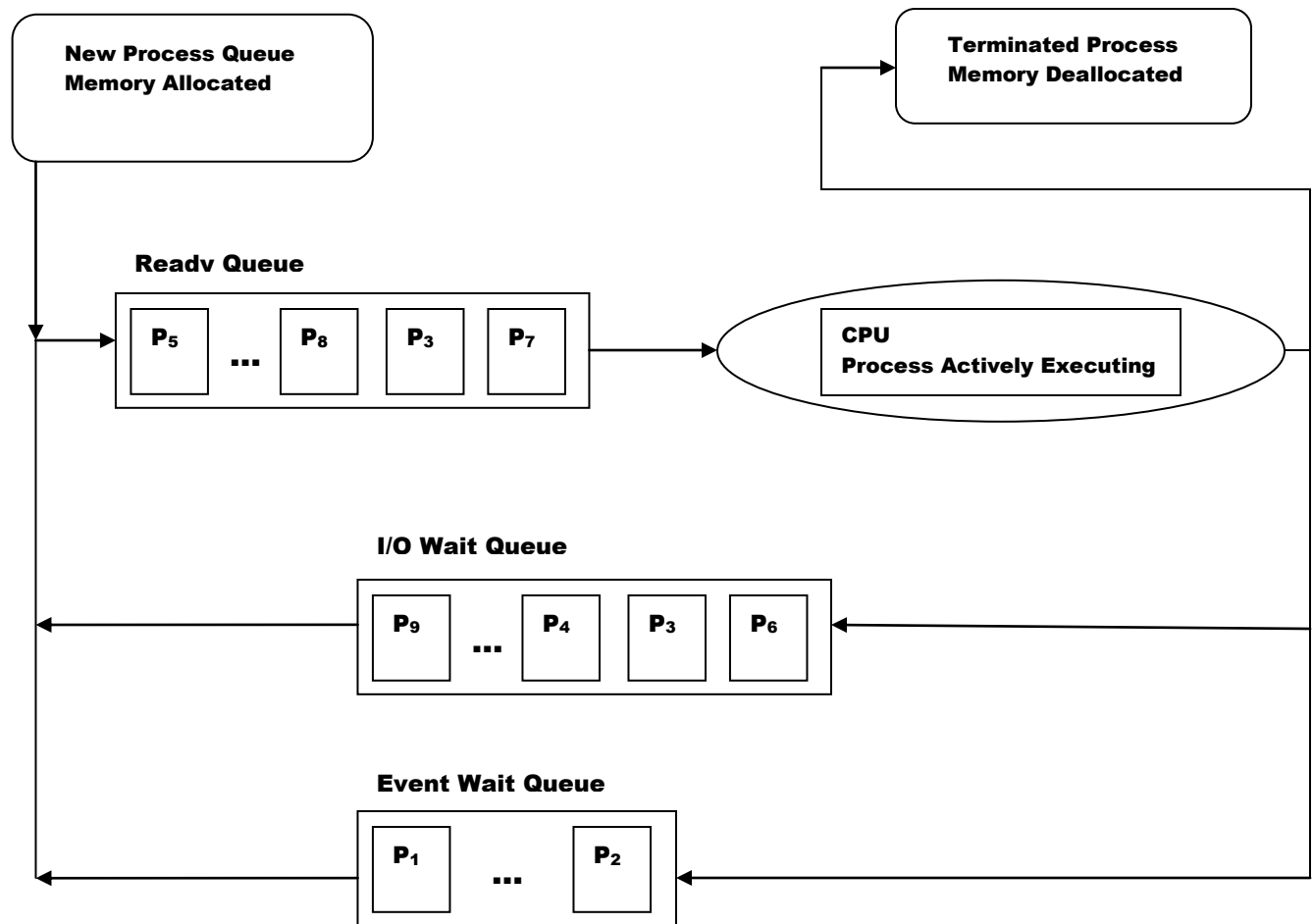
Process Structure

- text section
 - code
- current state
 - PC
 - IR
 - PSW
 - other registers
 - open files
 - etc
- process (user) stack
 - function parameters
 - return addresses
 - local variables
- data section
 - global variables
- heap
 - dynamically allocated memory



Multiple processes may use the same code; e.g., multiple users may use the same program source on the server to edit individual programs; each user may get their own copy of a segment of the code, but it still constitutes multiple processes using the same code

State Diagram of Process Execution



Process State

- New – process is being created
- Running – process is in a processor, i.e., program instructions are being executed
- Waiting – process is waiting for some event to occur
- Ready – process is waiting to be assigned to a processor
- Terminated – process has finished execution

Process Control Block (PCB)

(aka task control block)

PCB contains

- **Process State – new, running, etc.**
- **contents of the PC**
- **contents of the CPU Registers**
 - accumulators
 - index registers
 - PSW
 - general-purpose registers
 - etc
- **CPU Scheduling Information**
- **Memory Management Information**
 - page &/or segment tables
 - contents of base & limit register
- **Accounting Information**
 - CPU time used
 - real time used
 - process (job) numbers
 - account numbers
 - etc
- **I/O Status Information**
 - list of I/O devices allocated to the process
 - list of open files
 - etc.