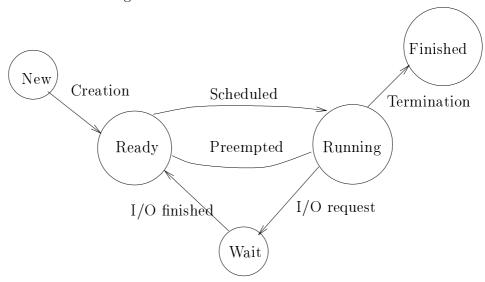


The University of Birmingham 10 May, 1999

Solutions to Mock Exam

1. (a) The transition diagram is as follows:



- (b) **Round-Robin**: rotation of graphics won't be smooth because compilation processes get large part of CPU; editor process probably not affected, as file system is not the bottleneck.
 - Shortest-Job First: Graphics very slow because it is the most CPUintensive process, editor very fast because it uses the CPU very little, compilation processes in the middle.
 - **Priority:** If graphics process gets high priority, it will run smoothly. Compilation processes will be slowed down, editor process only marginally.
- (c) I/O-bound processes will not have used the processor recently, hence they are favoured. If a process has not had the processor for a while, it will obtain it eventually, whatever the time it had used before.
- 2. (a) No. Main memory is about 250,000 times faster than disks, hence a 1% page fault rate yields a slowdown of roughly a factor of 2,500.
 - (b) The system is thrashing and swapping pages in and out all the time.
 - (i) No; the CPU is not the bottleneck.
 - (ii) No; the size of the paging disk is not the problem.
 - (iii) No; will make things only worse.
 - (iv) Yes; fewer programs will compete for main memory.
 - (v) Yes; fewer pages will be accessed.

(vi) If there is an improvement, it will be only marginal. The page faults still occur, they are served only faster. But we need to reduce the number of page faults drastically.