


# Process Management

Professor Aarti Gupta  
Computer Science Department

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## Goals of this Lecture


Help you learn about:

- Creating new processes
- Waiting for processes to terminate
- Executing new programs
- Shell structure

Why?

- Creating new processes and executing new programs are fundamental tasks of a Unix **shell**
  - See Assignment 7
- A power programmer knows about Unix shells

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## System-Level Functions

As noted in the *Exceptions and Processes* lecture...

Linux system-level functions for **process management**

Number	Function	Description
60	exit()	Terminate the process
57	fork()	Create a child process
7	wait()	Wait for child process termination
11	execvp()	Execute a program in current process
20	getpid()	Return the process id of the current process

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## Agenda


**Creating new processes**

Waiting for processes to terminate

Executing new programs

Shell structure

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## Why Create New Processes?


Why create a new process?

- Scenario 1: Program wants to run an additional instance of itself
  - E.g., **web server** receives request; creates additional instance of itself to handle the request; original instance continues listening for requests
- Scenario 2: Program wants to run a different program
  - E.g., **shell** receives a command; creates an additional instance of itself; additional instance overwrites itself with requested program to handle command; original instance continues listening for commands

How to create a new process?

- A “parent” process **forks** a “child” process
- (Optionally) child process overwrite itself with a new program

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## fork System-Level Function

```
pid_t fork(void);
```

- Create a new process by duplicating the calling process
- New (child) process is an exact duplicate of the calling (parent) process
- In the child, return 0
- In the parent, return the process id of the child

fork() is called once in parent process

fork() returns twice

- Once in parent process
- Once in child process

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## Creating New Processes

Parent process and child process run **concurrently**

- Two CPUs available =>
  - Parent process and child process run in **parallel**
- Fewer than two CPUs available =>
  - Parent process and child process run **serially**
  - OS provides the **illusion** of parallel execution
    - OS causes context switches between the two processes
  - (Recall **Exceptions and Processes** lecture)

Reality: Each FC010 computer has 4 CPUs

Simplifying assumption: there is only one CPU

- We'll speak of "which process gets the CPU"



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## Simple fork Example

```
#include <stdio.h>
#include <unistd.h>
int main(void)
{ printf("one\n");
  fork();
  printf("two\n");
  return 0;
}
```

What is the output?



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## Simple fork Example Trace 1 (1)

Parent prints "one"

```
#include <stdio.h>
#include <unistd.h>
int main(void)
{ printf("one\n");
  fork();
  printf("two\n");
  return 0;
}
```



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## Simple fork Example Trace 1 (2)

Parent forks child

```
#include <stdio.h>
#include <unistd.h>
int main(void)
{ printf("one\n");
  fork();
  printf("two\n");
  return 0;
}
```

```
#include <stdio.h>
#include <unistd.h>
int main(void)
{ printf("one\n");
  fork();
  printf("two\n");
  return 0;
}
```

Executing concurrently



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## Simple fork Example Trace 1 (3)

OS gives CPU to child; child prints "two"

```
#include <stdio.h>
#include <unistd.h>
int main(void)
{ printf("one\n");
  fork();
  printf("two\n");
  return 0;
}
```

Executing concurrently

```
#include <stdio.h>
#include <unistd.h>
int main(void)
{ printf("one\n");
  fork();
  printf("two\n");
  return 0;
}
```



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## Simple fork Example Trace 1 (4)

Child exits

```
#include <stdio.h>
#include <unistd.h>
int main(void)
{ printf("one\n");
  fork();
  printf("two\n");
  return 0;
}
```

Executing concurrently

```
#include <stdio.h>
#include <unistd.h>
int main(void)
{ printf("one\n");
  fork();
  printf("two\n");
  return 0;
}
```



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## Simple fork Example Trace 1 (5)



OS gives CPU to parent; parent prints "two"

```
#include <stdio.h>
#include <unistd.h>
int main(void)
{ printf("one\n");
  fork();
  printf("two\n");
  return 0;
}
```

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## Simple fork Example Trace 1 (6)



OS gives CPU to parent; parent prints "two"

```
#include <stdio.h>
#include <unistd.h>
int main(void)
{ printf("one\n");
  fork();
  printf("two\n");
  return 0;
}
```

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## Simple fork Example Trace 1 Output



Output:

```
one
two
two
```

From parent  
From child  
From parent

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## Simple fork Example Trace 2 (1)



Parent prints "one"

```
#include <stdio.h>
#include <unistd.h>
int main(void)
{ printf("one\n");
  fork();
  printf("two\n");
  return 0;
}
```

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## Simple fork Example Trace 2 (2)



Parent forks child

```
#include <stdio.h>
#include <unistd.h>
int main(void)
{ printf("one\n");
  fork();
  printf("two\n");
  return 0;
}
```

Executing concurrently

```
#include <stdio.h>
#include <unistd.h>
int main(void)
{ printf("one\n");
  fork();
  printf("two\n");
  return 0;
}
```

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## Simple fork Example Trace 2 (3)



OS gives CPU to parent; parent prints "two"

```
#include <stdio.h>
#include <unistd.h>
int main(void)
{ printf("one\n");
  fork();
  printf("two\n");
  return 0;
}
```

Executing concurrently

```
#include <stdio.h>
#include <unistd.h>
int main(void)
{ printf("one\n");
  fork();
  printf("two\n");
  return 0;
}
```

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### Simple `fork` Example Trace 2 (4)

Parent exits

```
#include <stdio.h>
#include <unistd.h>
int main(void)
{ printf("one\n");
  fork();
  printf("two\n");
  return 0;
}
```

Executing concurrently

```
#include <stdio.h>
#include <unistd.h>
int main(void)
{ printf("one\n");
  fork();
  printf("two\n");
  return 0;
}
```

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### Simple `fork` Example Trace 2 (5)

OS gives CPU to child; child prints "two"

```
#include <stdio.h>
#include <unistd.h>
int main(void)
{ printf("one\n");
  fork();
  printf("two\n");
  return 0;
}
```

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### Simple `fork` Example Trace 2 (6)

Child exits

```
#include <stdio.h>
#include <unistd.h>
int main(void)
{ printf("one\n");
  fork();
  printf("two\n");
  return 0;
}
```

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### Simple `fork` Example Trace 2 Output

Output:

```
one
two
two
```

From parent  
From parent  
From child

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### Fact 1: `fork` and Process State

Immediately after `fork()`, parent and child have identical but distinct process states

- Contents of registers
- Contents of memory
- File descriptor tables
  - (Relevant later)
- Etc.
  - See Bryant & O'Hallaron book for details

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### Fact 2: `fork` and Process Ids

Any process has a unique non-negative integer id

- Parent process and child processes have different process ids
- No process has process id 0

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### Fact 3: fork and Return Values

#### Return value of fork has meaning

- In child, `fork()` returns 0
- In parent, `fork()` returns process id of child

```
pid = fork();
if (pid == 0)
{
    /* in child */
    ...
}
else
{
    /* in parent */
    ...
}
```

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### fork Example

```
#include <stdio.h>
#include <stdlib.h>
#include <unistd.h>
#include <sys/types.h>
int main(void)
{
    pid_t pid;
    int x = 1;

    pid = fork();
    if (pid == 0)
    {
        x--;
        printf("child: %d\n", x);
        exit(0);
    }
    else
    {
        x++;
        printf("parent: %d\n", x);
        exit(0);
    }
}
```

What is the output?

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### fork Example Trace 1 (1)

```
#include <stdio.h>
#include <stdlib.h>
#include <unistd.h>
#include <sys/types.h>
int main(void)
{
    pid_t pid;
    int x = 1;

    pid = fork();
    if (pid == 0)
    {
        x--;
        printf("child: %d\n", x);
        exit(0);
    }
    else
    {
        x++;
        printf("parent: %d\n", x);
        exit(0);
    }
}
```

x = 1

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### fork Example Trace 1 (2)

#### Parent forks child

```
#include <stdio.h>
#include <stdlib.h>
#include <unistd.h>
#include <sys/types.h>
int main(void)
{
    pid_t pid;
    int x = 1;

    pid = fork();
    if (pid == 0)
    {
        x--;
        printf("child: %d\n", x);
        exit(0);
    }
    else
    {
        x++;
        printf("parent: %d\n", x);
        exit(0);
    }
}
```

x = 1

Executing concurrently

```
#include <stdio.h>
#include <stdlib.h>
#include <unistd.h>
#include <sys/types.h>
int main(void)
{
    pid_t pid;
    int x = 1;

    pid = fork();
    if (pid == 0)
    {
        x--;
        printf("child: %d\n", x);
        exit(0);
    }
    else
    {
        x++;
        printf("parent: %d\n", x);
        exit(0);
    }
}
```

x = 1

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### fork Example Trace 1 (3)

Assume OS gives CPU to child

```
#include <stdio.h>
#include <stdlib.h>
#include <unistd.h>
#include <sys/types.h>
int main(void)
{
    pid_t pid;
    int x = 1;

    pid = fork();
    if (pid == 0)
    {
        x--;
        printf("child: %d\n", x);
        exit(0);
    }
    else
    {
        x++;
        printf("parent: %d\n", x);
        exit(0);
    }
}
```

x = 1

Executing concurrently

```
#include <stdio.h>
#include <stdlib.h>
#include <unistd.h>
#include <sys/types.h>
int main(void)
{
    pid_t pid;
    int x = 1;

    pid = fork();
    if (pid == 0)
    {
        x--;
        printf("child: %d\n", x);
        exit(0);
    }
    else
    {
        x++;
        printf("parent: %d\n", x);
        exit(0);
    }
}
```

x = 1

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### fork Example Trace 1 (4)

Child decrements its x, and prints "child: 0"

```
#include <stdio.h>
#include <stdlib.h>
#include <unistd.h>
#include <sys/types.h>
int main(void)
{
    pid_t pid;
    int x = 1;

    pid = fork();
    if (pid == 0)
    {
        x--;
        printf("child: %d\n", x);
        exit(0);
    }
    else
    {
        x++;
        printf("parent: %d\n", x);
        exit(0);
    }
}
```

x = 1

Executing concurrently

```
#include <stdio.h>
#include <stdlib.h>
#include <unistd.h>
#include <sys/types.h>
int main(void)
{
    pid_t pid;
    int x = 1;

    pid = fork();
    if (pid == 0)
    {
        x--;
        printf("child: %d\n", x);
        exit(0);
    }
    else
    {
        x++;
        printf("parent: %d\n", x);
        exit(0);
    }
}
```

x = 0

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### fork Example Trace 1 (5)

Child exits; OS gives CPU to parent

```
#include <stdio.h>
#include <stdlib.h>
#include <unistd.h>
#include <sys/types.h>
int main(void)
{ pid_t pid;
  int x = 1;

  pid = fork();
  if (pid == 0)
  { x--;
    printf("child: %d\n", x);
    exit(0);
  }
  else
  { x++;
    printf("parent: %d\n", x);
    exit(0);
  }
}
```

x = 1

Executing concurrently

```
#include <stdio.h>
#include <stdlib.h>
#include <unistd.h>
#include <sys/types.h>
int main(void)
{ pid_t pid;
  int x = 1;

  pid = fork();
  if (pid == 0)
  { x--;
    printf("child: %d\n", x);
    exit(0);
  }
  else
  { x++;
    printf("parent: %d\n", x);
    exit(0);
  }
}
```

x = 0

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### fork Example Trace 1 (6)

In parent, fork() returns process id of child

```
#include <stdio.h>
#include <stdlib.h>
#include <unistd.h>
#include <sys/types.h>
int main(void)
{ pid_t pid;
  int x = 1;

  pid = fork();
  if (pid == 0)
  { x--;
    printf("child: %d\n", x);
    exit(0);
  }
  else
  { x++;
    printf("parent: %d\n", x);
    exit(0);
  }
}
```

x = 1

Process id of child

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### fork Example Trace 1 (7)

Parent increments its x, and prints "parent: 2"

```
#include <stdio.h>
#include <stdlib.h>
#include <unistd.h>
#include <sys/types.h>
int main(void)
{ pid_t pid;
  int x = 1;

  pid = fork();
  if (pid == 0)
  { x--;
    printf("child: %d\n", x);
    exit(0);
  }
  else
  { x++;
    printf("parent: %d\n", x);
    exit(0);
  }
}
```

x = 2

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### fork Example Trace 1 (8)

Parent exits

```
#include <stdio.h>
#include <stdlib.h>
#include <unistd.h>
#include <sys/types.h>
int main(void)
{ pid_t pid;
  int x = 1;

  pid = fork();
  if (pid == 0)
  { x--;
    printf("child: %d\n", x);
    exit(0);
  }
  else
  { x++;
    printf("parent: %d\n", x);
    exit(0);
  }
}
```

x = 2

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### fork Example Trace 1 Output

Example trace 1 output:

```
Child: 0
Parent: 2
```

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### fork Example Trace 2 (1)

```
#include <stdio.h>
#include <stdlib.h>
#include <unistd.h>
#include <sys/types.h>
int main(void)
{ pid_t pid;
  int x = 1;

  pid = fork();
  if (pid == 0)
  { x--;
    printf("child: %d\n", x);
    exit(0);
  }
  else
  { x++;
    printf("parent: %d\n", x);
    exit(0);
  }
}
```

x = 1

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## fork Example Trace 2 (2)

Parent forks child

```
#include <stdio.h>
#include <stdlib.h>
#include <unistd.h>
#include <sys/types.h>
int main(void)
{ pid_t pid;
  int x = 1;

  pid = fork();
  if (pid == 0)
  { x--;
    printf("child: %d\n", x);
    exit(0);
  }
  else
  { x++;
    printf("parent: %d\n", x);
    exit(0);
  }
}
```

x = 1

Executing concurrently

```
#include <stdio.h>
#include <stdlib.h>
#include <unistd.h>
#include <sys/types.h>
int main(void)
{ pid_t pid;
  int x = 1;

  pid = fork();
  if (pid == 0)
  { x--;
    printf("child: %d\n", x);
    exit(0);
  }
  else
  { x++;
    printf("parent: %d\n", x);
    exit(0);
  }
}
```

x = 1

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## fork Example Trace 2 (3)

Assume OS gives CPU to parent

```
#include <stdio.h>
#include <stdlib.h>
#include <unistd.h>
#include <sys/types.h>
int main(void)
{ pid_t pid;
  int x = 1;

  pid = fork();
  if (pid == 0)
  { x--;
    printf("child: %d\n", x);
    exit(0);
  }
  else
  { x++;
    printf("parent: %d\n", x);
    exit(0);
  }
}
```

Process ID  
of child

x = 1

Executing concurrently

```
#include <stdio.h>
#include <stdlib.h>
#include <unistd.h>
#include <sys/types.h>
int main(void)
{ pid_t pid;
  int x = 1;

  pid = fork();
  if (pid == 0)
  { x--;
    printf("child: %d\n", x);
    exit(0);
  }
  else
  { x++;
    printf("parent: %d\n", x);
    exit(0);
  }
}
```

x = 1

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## fork Example Trace 2 (4)

Parent increments its x and prints "parent: 2"

```
#include <stdio.h>
#include <stdlib.h>
#include <unistd.h>
#include <sys/types.h>
int main(void)
{ pid_t pid;
  int x = 1;

  pid = fork();
  if (pid == 0)
  { x--;
    printf("child: %d\n", x);
    exit(0);
  }
  else
  { x++;
    printf("parent: %d\n", x);
    exit(0);
  }
}
```

x = 2

Executing concurrently

```
#include <stdio.h>
#include <stdlib.h>
#include <unistd.h>
#include <sys/types.h>
int main(void)
{ pid_t pid;
  int x = 1;

  pid = fork();
  if (pid == 0)
  { x--;
    printf("child: %d\n", x);
    exit(0);
  }
  else
  { x++;
    printf("parent: %d\n", x);
    exit(0);
  }
}
```

x = 1

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## fork Example Trace 2 (5)

Parent exits; OS gives CPU to child

```
#include <stdio.h>
#include <stdlib.h>
#include <unistd.h>
#include <sys/types.h>
int main(void)
{ pid_t pid;
  int x = 1;

  pid = fork();
  if (pid == 0)
  { x--;
    printf("child: %d\n", x);
    exit(0);
  }
  else
  { x++;
    printf("parent: %d\n", x);
    exit(0);
  }
}
```

x = 2

Executing concurrently

```
#include <stdio.h>
#include <stdlib.h>
#include <unistd.h>
#include <sys/types.h>
int main(void)
{ pid_t pid;
  int x = 1;

  pid = fork();
  if (pid == 0)
  { x--;
    printf("child: %d\n", x);
    exit(0);
  }
  else
  { x++;
    printf("parent: %d\n", x);
    exit(0);
  }
}
```

x = 1

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## fork Example Trace 2 (6)

In child, fork() returns 0

0

```
#include <stdio.h>
#include <stdlib.h>
#include <unistd.h>
#include <sys/types.h>
int main(void)
{ pid_t pid;
  int x = 1;

  pid = fork();
  if (pid == 0)
  { x--;
    printf("child: %d\n", x);
    exit(0);
  }
  else
  { x++;
    printf("parent: %d\n", x);
    exit(0);
  }
}
```

x = 1

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## fork Example Trace 2 (7)

Child decrements its x and prints "child: 0"

```
#include <stdio.h>
#include <stdlib.h>
#include <unistd.h>
#include <sys/types.h>
int main(void)
{ pid_t pid;
  int x = 1;

  pid = fork();
  if (pid == 0)
  { x--;
    printf("child: %d\n", x);
    exit(0);
  }
  else
  { x++;
    printf("parent: %d\n", x);
    exit(0);
  }
}
```

x = 0

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## fork Example Trace 2 (8)

Child exits

```
#include <stdio.h>
#include <stdlib.h>
#include <unistd.h>
#include <sys/types.h>
int main(void)
{
    pid_t pid;
    int x = 1;

    pid = fork();
    if (pid == 0)
    {
        x--;
        printf("child: %d\n", x);
        exit(0);
    }
    else
    {
        x++;
        printf("parent: %d\n", x);
        exit(0);
    }
}
```

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## fork Example Trace 2 Output

Example trace 2 output:

```
Parent: 2
Child: 0
```

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## Agenda

Creating new processes

**Waiting for processes to terminate**

Executing new programs

Shell structure

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## wait System-Level Function

**Problem:**

- How to control execution order?

**Solution:**

- Parent should call `wait()`
- Thereby, parent should **harvest** (or **reap**) its children

`pid_t wait(int *status);`

- Suspends execution of the calling process until one of its children terminates
- If status is not NULL, stores status information in the int to which it points; this integer can be inspected with macros [see man page for details].
- On success, returns the process ID of the terminated child
- On error, returns -1

Paraphrasing man page

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## wait Example

```
#include <stdio.h>
#include <stdlib.h>
#include <unistd.h>
#include <sys/types.h>
#include <wait.h>
int main(void)
{
    pid_t pid;
    pid = fork();
    if (pid == 0)
    {
        printf("child\n");
        exit(0);
    }
    wait(NULL);
    printf("parent\n");
    return 0;
}
```

What is the output?

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## wait Example Trace 1 (1)

Parent forks child

```
#include <stdio.h>
#include <stdlib.h>
#include <unistd.h>
#include <sys/types.h>
#include <wait.h>
int main(void)
{
    pid_t pid;
    pid = fork();
    if (pid == 0)
    {
        printf("child\n");
        exit(0);
    }
    wait(NULL);
    printf("parent\n");
    return 0;
}
```

Executing concurrently

```
#include <stdio.h>
#include <stdlib.h>
#include <unistd.h>
#include <sys/types.h>
#include <wait.h>
int main(void)
{
    pid_t pid;
    pid = fork();
    if (pid == 0)
    {
        printf("child\n");
        exit(0);
    }
    wait(NULL);
    printf("parent\n");
    return 0;
}
```

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## wait Example Trace 1 (2)

OS gives CPU to parent

```
#include <stdio.h>
#include <stdlib.h>
#include <unistd.h>
#include <sys/types.h>
#include <wait.h>
int main(void)
{ pid_t pid;
  pid = fork();
  if (pid == 0)
  { printf("child\n");
    exit(0);
  }
  wait(NULL);
  printf("parent\n");
  return 0;
}
```

Executing concurrently

```
#include <stdio.h>
#include <stdlib.h>
#include <unistd.h>
#include <sys/types.h>
#include <wait.h>
int main(void)
{ pid_t pid;
  pid = fork();
  if (pid == 0)
  { printf("child\n");
    exit(0);
  }
  wait(NULL);
  printf("parent\n");
  return 0;
}
```

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## wait Example Trace 1 (3)

Parent calls wait()

```
#include <stdio.h>
#include <stdlib.h>
#include <unistd.h>
#include <sys/types.h>
#include <wait.h>
int main(void)
{ pid_t pid;
  pid = fork();
  if (pid == 0)
  { printf("child\n");
    exit(0);
  }
  wait(NULL);
  printf("parent\n");
  return 0;
}
```

Executing concurrently

```
#include <stdio.h>
#include <stdlib.h>
#include <unistd.h>
#include <sys/types.h>
#include <wait.h>
int main(void)
{ pid_t pid;
  pid = fork();
  if (pid == 0)
  { printf("child\n");
    exit(0);
  }
  wait(NULL);
  printf("parent\n");
  return 0;
}
```

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## wait Example Trace 1 (4)

OS gives CPU to child

```
#include <stdio.h>
#include <stdlib.h>
#include <unistd.h>
#include <sys/types.h>
#include <wait.h>
int main(void)
{ pid_t pid;
  pid = fork();
  if (pid == 0)
  { printf("child\n");
    exit(0);
  }
  wait(NULL);
  printf("parent\n");
  return 0;
}
```

Executing concurrently

```
#include <stdio.h>
#include <stdlib.h>
#include <unistd.h>
#include <sys/types.h>
#include <wait.h>
int main(void)
{ pid_t pid;
  pid = fork();
  if (pid == 0)
  { printf("child\n");
    exit(0);
  }
  wait(NULL);
  printf("parent\n");
  return 0;
}
```

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## wait Example Trace 1 (5)

Child prints "child" and exits

```
#include <stdio.h>
#include <stdlib.h>
#include <unistd.h>
#include <sys/types.h>
#include <wait.h>
int main(void)
{ pid_t pid;
  pid = fork();
  if (pid == 0)
  { printf("child\n");
    exit(0);
  }
  wait(NULL);
  printf("parent\n");
  return 0;
}
```

Executing concurrently

```
#include <stdio.h>
#include <stdlib.h>
#include <unistd.h>
#include <sys/types.h>
#include <wait.h>
int main(void)
{ pid_t pid;
  pid = fork();
  if (pid == 0)
  { printf("child\n");
    exit(0);
  }
  wait(NULL);
  printf("parent\n");
  return 0;
}
```

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## wait Example Trace 1 (6)

Parent returns from call of wait(), prints "parent", exits

```
#include <stdio.h>
#include <stdlib.h>
#include <unistd.h>
#include <sys/types.h>
#include <wait.h>
int main(void)
{ pid_t pid;
  pid = fork();
  if (pid == 0)
  { printf("child\n");
    exit(0);
  }
  wait(NULL);
  printf("parent\n");
  return 0;
}
```

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## wait Example Trace 1 Output

Example trace 1 output

```
child
parent
```

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## wait Example Trace 2 (1)



Parent forks child

```
#include <stdio.h>
#include <stdlib.h>
#include <unistd.h>
#include <sys/types.h>
#include <wait.h>
int main(void)
{
    pid_t pid;
    pid = fork();
    if (pid == 0)
    {
        printf("child\n");
        exit(0);
    }
    wait(NULL);
    printf("parent\n");
    return 0;
}
```

Executing concurrently

```
#include <stdio.h>
#include <stdlib.h>
#include <unistd.h>
#include <sys/types.h>
#include <wait.h>
int main(void)
{
    pid_t pid;
    pid = fork();
    if (pid == 0)
    {
        printf("child\n");
        exit(0);
    }
    wait(NULL);
    printf("parent\n");
    return 0;
}
```

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## wait Example Trace 2 (2)



OS gives CPU to child

```
#include <stdio.h>
#include <stdlib.h>
#include <unistd.h>
#include <sys/types.h>
#include <wait.h>
int main(void)
{
    pid_t pid;
    pid = fork();
    if (pid == 0)
    {
        printf("child\n");
        exit(0);
    }
    wait(NULL);
    printf("parent\n");
    return 0;
}
```

Executing concurrently

```
#include <stdio.h>
#include <stdlib.h>
#include <unistd.h>
#include <sys/types.h>
#include <wait.h>
int main(void)
{
    pid_t pid;
    pid = fork();
    if (pid == 0)
    {
        printf("child\n");
        exit(0);
    }
    wait(NULL);
    printf("parent\n");
    return 0;
}
```

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## wait Example Trace 2 (3)



Child prints "child" and exits

```
#include <stdio.h>
#include <stdlib.h>
#include <unistd.h>
#include <sys/types.h>
#include <wait.h>
int main(void)
{
    pid_t pid;
    pid = fork();
    if (pid == 0)
    {
        printf("child\n");
        exit(0);
    }
    wait(NULL);
    printf("parent\n");
    return 0;
}
```

Executing concurrently

```
#include <stdio.h>
#include <stdlib.h>
#include <unistd.h>
#include <sys/types.h>
#include <wait.h>
int main(void)
{
    pid_t pid;
    pid = fork();
    if (pid == 0)
    {
        printf("child\n");
        exit(0);
    }
    wait(NULL);
    printf("parent\n");
    return 0;
}
```

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## wait Example Trace 2 (4)



OS gives CPU to parent

```
#include <stdio.h>
#include <stdlib.h>
#include <unistd.h>
#include <sys/types.h>
#include <wait.h>
int main(void)
{
    pid_t pid;
    pid = fork();
    if (pid == 0)
    {
        printf("child\n");
        exit(0);
    }
    wait(NULL);
    printf("parent\n");
    return 0;
}
```

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## wait Example Trace 2 (5)



Parent calls wait(); returns immediately

```
#include <stdio.h>
#include <stdlib.h>
#include <unistd.h>
#include <sys/types.h>
#include <wait.h>
int main(void)
{
    pid_t pid;
    pid = fork();
    if (pid == 0)
    {
        printf("child\n");
        exit(0);
    }
    wait(NULL);
    printf("parent\n");
    return 0;
}
```

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## wait Example Trace 2 (6)



Parent prints "parent" and exits

```
#include <stdio.h>
#include <stdlib.h>
#include <unistd.h>
#include <sys/types.h>
#include <wait.h>
int main(void)
{
    pid_t pid;
    pid = fork();
    if (pid == 0)
    {
        printf("child\n");
        exit(0);
    }
    wait(NULL);
    printf("parent\n");
    return 0;
}
```

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## wait Example Trace 2 Output

Example trace 2 output

```
child
parent
```

Same as trace 1 output!

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## Aside: Orphans and Zombies

### Question:

- What happens if parent process does not wait for (reap/harvest) child process?

### Answer 1:

- In shell, could cause sequencing problems
- E.g, parent process running shell writes prompt for next command before current command is finished executing

### Answer 2:

- In general, child process becomes **zombie** and/or **orphan**

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## Aside: Orphans and Zombies

### Orphan

- A process that has no parent

### Zombie

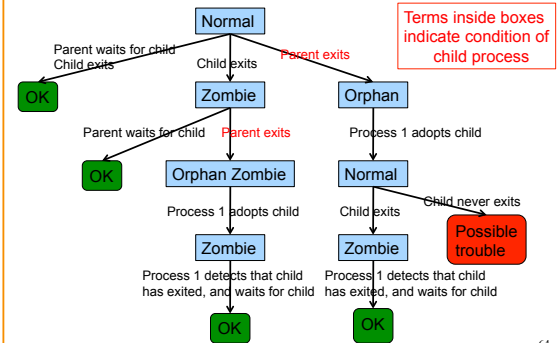
- A process that has terminated but has not been waited for (reaped)

### Orphans and zombies

- Clutter Unix data structures unnecessarily
  - OS maintains unnecessary PCBs
- Can become long-running processes
  - Consume CPU time unnecessarily

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## Aside: Orphans and Zombies



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## Agenda

Creating new processes

Waiting for processes to terminate

**Executing new programs**

Shell structure

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## execvp System-Level Function

### Problem: How to execute a new program?

- Usually, in the newly-created child process

### Solution: `execvp()`

```
int execvp(const char *file, char *const argv[]);
```

- Replaces the current process image with a new process image
- Provides an array of pointers to null-terminated strings that represent the argument list available to the new program
  - The first argument, by convention, should point to the filename associated with the file being executed
  - The array of pointers must be terminated by a NULL pointer

Paraphrasing man page

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## execvp System-Level Function

Example: Execute "cat readme"

```
char *newCmd;
char *newArgv[3];
newCmd = "cat";
newArgv[0] = "cat";
newArgv[1] = "readme";
newArgv[2] = NULL;
execvp(newCmd, newArgv);
```

- First argument: name of program to be executed
- Second argument: argv to be passed to main() of new program
  - Must begin with program name, end with NULL

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## execvp Failure

**fork ()**

- If successful, returns **two** times
  - Once in parent
  - Once in child

**execvp ()**

- If successful, returns **zero** times
  - Calling program is overwritten with new program
- Corollary:
  - If **execvp ()** returns, then it must have failed

```
char *newCmd;
char *newArgv[3];
newCmd = "cat";
newArgv[0] = "cat";
newArgv[1] = "readme";
newArgv[2] = NULL;
execvp(newCmd, newArgv);
fprintf(stderr, "exec failed\n");
exit(EXIT_FAILURE);
```

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## execvp Example

```
$ cat readme
This is my
readme file.
```

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## execvp Example

```
#include <stdio.h>
#include <stdlib.h>
#include <unistd.h>
int main(void)
{
    char *newCmd;
    char *newArgv[3];
    newCmd = "cat";
    newArgv[0] = "cat";
    newArgv[1] = "readme";
    newArgv[2] = NULL;
    execvp(newCmd, newArgv);
    fprintf(stderr, "exec failed\n");
    return EXIT_FAILURE;
}
```

What is the output?

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## execvp Example Trace (1)

Process creates arguments to be passed to **execvp ()**

```
#include <stdio.h>
#include <stdlib.h>
#include <unistd.h>
int main(void)
{
    char *newCmd;
    char *newArgv[3];
    newCmd = "cat";
    newArgv[0] = "cat";
    newArgv[1] = "readme";
    newArgv[2] = NULL;
    execvp(newCmd, newArgv);
    fprintf(stderr, "exec failed\n");
    return EXIT_FAILURE;
}
```

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## execvp Example Trace (2)

Process executes **execvp ()**

```
#include <stdio.h>
#include <stdlib.h>
#include <unistd.h>
int main(void)
{
    char *newCmd;
    char *newArgv[3];
    newCmd = "cat";
    newArgv[0] = "cat";
    newArgv[1] = "readme";
    newArgv[2] = NULL;
    execvp(newCmd, newArgv);
    fprintf(stderr, "exec failed\n");
    return EXIT_FAILURE;
}
```

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**execvp Example Trace (3)**

cat program executes in same process

```
cat program
with argv array:
  argv[0] = "cat"
  argv[1] = "readme"
  argv[2] = NULL
```

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**execvp Example Trace (4)**

cat program writes "This is my\nreadme file."

```
cat program
with argv array:
  argv[0] = "cat"
  argv[1] = "readme"
  argv[2] = NULL
```

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**execvp Example Trace (5)**

cat program terminates

```
cat program
with argv array:
  argv[0] = "cat"
  argv[1] = "readme"
  argv[2] = NULL
```

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**execvp Example Trace (6)**

Output

```
This is my
readme file.
```

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**Agenda**

- Creating new processes
- Waiting for processes to terminate
- Executing new programs
- Shell structure**

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**Shell Structure**

Parent (shell) reads & parses the command line  
• E.g., "cat readme"

Parent forks child

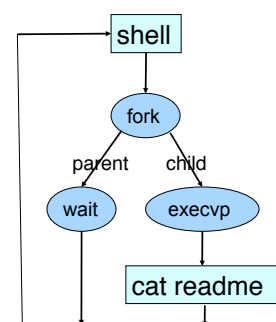
Parent waits

Child calls execvp to execute command

Child exits

Parent returns from wait

Parent repeats



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## Simple Shell Code

```

Parse command line
Assign values to somepgm, someargv
pid = fork();
if (pid == 0) {
    /* in child */
    execvp(somepgm, someargv);
    fprintf(stderr, "exec failed\n");
    exit(EXIT_FAILURE);
}
/* in parent */
wait(NULL);
Repeat the previous

```

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## Simple Shell Trace (1)

### Parent Process

```

Parse command line
Assign values to somepgm, someargv
pid = fork();
if (pid == 0) {
    /* in child */
    execvp(somepgm, someargv);
    fprintf(stderr, "exec failed\n");
    exit(EXIT_FAILURE);
}
/* in parent */
wait(NULL);
Repeat the previous

```

Parent reads and parses command line  
Parent assigns values to **somepgm** and **someargv**

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## Simple Shell Trace (2)

### Parent Process

```

Parse command line
Assign values to somepgm, someargv
pid = fork();
if (pid == 0) {
    /* in child */
    execvp(somepgm, someargv);
    fprintf(stderr, "exec failed\n");
    exit(EXIT_FAILURE);
}
/* in parent */
wait(NULL);
Repeat the previous

```

### Child Process

```

Parse command line
Assign values to somefile, someargv
pid = fork();
if (pid == 0) {
    /* in child */
    execvp(somepgm, someargv);
    fprintf(stderr, "exec failed\n");
    exit(EXIT_FAILURE);
}
/* in parent */
wait(NULL);
Repeat the previous

```

executing  
concurrently

**fork()** creates child process  
Which process gets the CPU first? Let's assume the parent...

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## Simple Shell Trace (3)

### Parent Process

```

Parse command line
Assign values to somepgm, someargv
pid = fork();
if (pid == 0) {
    /* in child */
    execvp(somepgm, someargv);
    fprintf(stderr, "exec failed\n");
    exit(EXIT_FAILURE);
}
/* in parent */
wait(NULL);
Repeat the previous

```

### child's pid

### Child Process

```

Parse command line
Assign values to somefile, someargv
pid = fork();
if (pid == 0) {
    /* in child */
    execvp(somepgm, someargv);
    fprintf(stderr, "exec failed\n");
    exit(EXIT_FAILURE);
}
/* in parent */
wait(NULL);
Repeat the previous

```

executing  
concurrently

In parent, **pid != 0**; parent waits; OS gives CPU to child

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## Simple Shell Trace (4)

### Parent Process

```

Parse command line
Assign values to somepgm, someargv
pid = fork();
if (pid == 0) {
    /* in child */
    execvp(somepgm, someargv);
    fprintf(stderr, "exec failed\n");
    exit(EXIT_FAILURE);
}
/* in parent */
wait(NULL);
Repeat the previous

```

### Child Process

```

Parse command line
Assign values to somefile, someargv
pid = fork();
if (pid == 0) {
    /* in child */
    execvp(somepgm, someargv);
    fprintf(stderr, "exec failed\n");
    exit(EXIT_FAILURE);
}
/* in parent */
wait(NULL);
Repeat the previous

```

0  
executing  
concurrently

In child, **pid == 0**; child calls **execvp()**

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## Simple Shell Trace (5)

### Parent Process

```

Parse command line
Assign values to somepgm, someargv
pid = fork();
if (pid == 0) {
    /* in child */
    execvp(somepgm, someargv);
    fprintf(stderr, "exec failed\n");
    exit(EXIT_FAILURE);
}
/* in parent */
wait(NULL);
Repeat the previous

```

### Child Process

```

somepgm
With someargv
as argv param

```

executing  
concurrently

In child, **somepgm** overwrites shell program;  
**main()** is called with **someargv** as **argv** parameter

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## Simple Shell Trace (6)

### Parent Process

```
Parse command line
Assign values to somepgm, someargv
pid = fork();
if (pid == 0) {
    /* in child */
    execvp(somepgm, someargv);
    fprintf(stderr, "exec failed\n");
    exit(EXIT_FAILURE);
}
/* in parent */
wait(NULL);
Repeat the previous
```

### Child Process

~~somepgm~~  
With someargv  
as argv param

executing  
concurrently

Somepgm executes in child, and eventually exits

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## Simple Shell Trace (7)

### Parent Process

```
Parse command line
Assign values to somepgm, someargv
pid = fork();
if (pid == 0) {
    /* in child */
    execvp(somepgm, someargv);
    fprintf(stderr, "exec failed\n");
    exit(EXIT_FAILURE);
}
/* in parent */
wait(NULL);
Repeat the previous
```

Parent returns from `wait()` and repeats

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## Aside: system Function

### Common combination of operations

- `fork()` to create a new child process
- `execvp()` to execute new program in child process
- `wait()` in the parent process for the child to complete

### Single call that combines all three

- `int system(const char *cmd);`

### Example

```
#include <stdlib.h>
int main(void)
{
    system("cat readme");
    return 0;
}
```

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## Aside: system Function

### Question:

- Why not use `system()` instead of `fork()`/`execvp()`/`wait()` in Assignment 7 shell?

### Shallow answer:

- Assignment requirements!

### Deeper answer:

- Using `system()`, shell could not handle **signals** as specified
- See *Signals* lecture

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## Aside: fork Efficiency

### Question:

- `fork()` duplicates an entire process (text, bss, data, rodata, stack, heap sections)
- Isn't that very inefficient????!!

### Answer:

- Using virtual memory, not really!
- Upon `fork()`, OS creates virtual pages for child process
- Each child virtual page maps to physical page (in memory or on disk) of parent
- OS duplicates physical pages incrementally, and only if/when "write" occurs ("write-on-demand")

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## Aside: exec Efficiency

### Question:

- `execvp()` loads a new program from disk into memory
- Isn't that somewhat inefficient?

### Answer:

- Using virtual memory, not really!
- Upon `execvp()`, OS changes process's virtual page table to point to pages on disk containing the new program
- As page faults occur, OS swaps pages of new program into memory incrementally as needed

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## Aside: `fork/exec` Efficiency



The bottom line...

`fork()` and `execvp()` are efficient

- Because they were designed with virtual memory in mind!

Commentary: A beautiful intersection  
of three beautiful abstractions

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## Assignment 7 Suggestion



A shell is mostly a big loop

- Read char array from `stdin`
- Lexically analyze char array to create token array
- Parse token array to create command
- Execute command
  - Fork child process
  - Parent:
    - Wait for child to terminate
  - Child:
    - Exec new program

Start with code from earlier slides and from precepts

- And edit until it becomes a Unix shell!

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## Summary



Creating new processes

- `fork()`

Executing new programs

- `execvp()`

Waiting for processes to terminate

- `wait()`

Shell structure

- Combination of `fork()`, `execvp()`, `wait()`

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