



I/O Management

1

1

Goals of this Lecture



Help you to learn about:

- The C/Unix **file** abstraction
- Unix I/O
 - Data structures & functions
- C library I/O
 - Data structures & functions
- The implementation of Standard C I/O using Unix I/O
- Programmatic redirection of stdin, stdout, and stderr
- Pipes

2

2

Agenda



The C/Unix file abstraction

Unix I/O system calls

C's Standard IO library (FILE *)

+ Implementing standard C I/O using Unix I/O

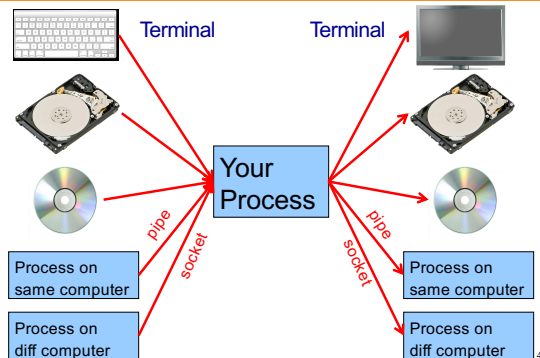
Redirecting standard files

Pipes

3

3

Data Sources and Destinations



4

4

C/Unix File Abstraction



Problem:

- At the physical level...
- Code that **reads** from **keyboard** is very different from code that reads from **disk**, etc.
- Code that **writes** to **video screen** is very different from code that writes to **disk**, etc.
- Would be nice if application programmer didn't need to worry about such details

Solution:

- **File**: a sequence of bytes
- C and Unix allow application program to treat any data source/destination as a **file**

Commentary: **Beautiful** abstraction!

5

5

C/Unix File Abstraction



Each file has an associated **file position**

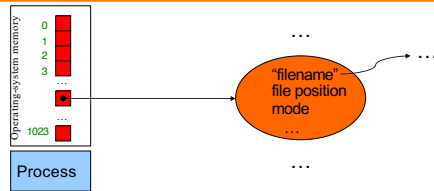
- Starts at beginning of file (if opened to read or write)
- Starts at end of file (if opened to append)



6

6

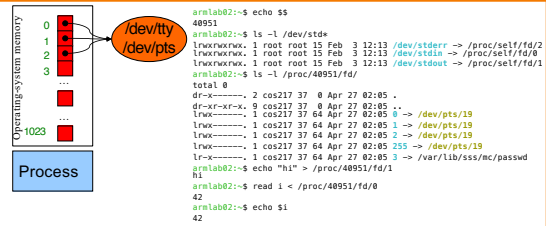
Unix I/O Data Structures



File descriptor: Integer that uniquely identifies an open file
File descriptor table: an array for one process
 Indices are file descriptors; elements are pointers to file tables
 One unique file descriptor table for each process
File table: a list for all processes
 Entries are in-memory surrogate for an open file
 Created when a process opens file; keeps mode, file position
 Shared across all processes

7

Unix I/O Data Structures



At process start-up files with fd 0, 1, 2 are open automatically
 (By default) each references file table for a file named /dev/tty or /dev/pts
Terminal
 Combination keyboard/video screen interface (physical or virtual)

8

System-Level Functions

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

Linux system-level functions for **I/O management**

Function	Description
read()	Read data from file descriptor Called by getchar(), scanf(), etc.
write()	Write data to file descriptor Called by putchar(), printf(), etc.
open()	Open file or device (mode varies by flags) Called by fopen(..., "r")
close()	Close file descriptor Called by fclose()
creat()	Open file or device for writing (creates/truncates) Called by fopen(..., "w")
lseek()	Change file position Called by lseek()

9

System-Level Functions

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

Linux system-level functions for **I/O redirection and inter-process communication**

Function	Description
dup()	Duplicate an open file descriptor
pipe()	Create a channel of communication between processes

10

Agenda

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Redirecting standard files

Pipes

11

Unix I/O Functions

```
int creat(char *filename, mode_t mode);
```

- Create a new empty file named **filename**
 - mode** indicates permissions of new file
- Implementation:
 - Create new empty file on disk
 - or truncate an existing one to 0 bytes
 - Create file table entry
 - Update entry in case of existing file
 - Set access mode to write-only
 - Set file position to 0
- Set first unused file descriptor to point to file table entry
- Return file descriptor used, -1 upon failure

12

Unix I/O Functions

```
int open(char *filename, int flags, ...);
```

- Open the file whose name is `filename`
 - `flags` often is `O_RDONLY`
- Implementation (assuming `O_RDONLY`):
 - Find existing file on disk
 - Create file table
 - Set first unused file descriptor to point to file table
 - Return file descriptor used, -1 upon failure

13

Unix I/O Functions

```
int close(int fd);
```

- Close the file `fd`
- Implementation:
 - Destroy file table referenced by element `fd` of file descriptor table
 - As long as no other process is pointing to it!
 - Set element `fd` of file descriptor table to `NULL`
 - allows `open` to reuse it

```
arm02:~/Test$ cat fdtablemax.c  arm02:~/Test$ gcc217 fdtablemax.c
#define _GNU_SOURCE               -o fdtablemax
#include <unistd.h>               arm02:~/Test$ ./fdtablemax
#include <stdio.h>                8192
int main() {
    printf("%d\n", getdtablesize());
    return 0;
}
```

14

Unix I/O Functions

```
int read(int fd, void *buf, int count);
```

- Read into `buf` up to `count` bytes from file `fd`
- Return the number of bytes read; 0 indicates end-of-file

```
int write(int fd, void *buf, int count);
```

- Writes up to `count` bytes from `buf` to file `fd`
- Return the number of bytes written; -1 indicates error

```
int lseek(int fd, int offset, int whence);
```

- Set the file position of file `fd` to file position `offset`.
- `whence` indicates if the file position is measured from the beginning of the file (`SEEK_SET`), from the current file position (`SEEK_CUR`), or from the end of the file (`SEEK_END`)
- Return the file position from the beginning of the file

15

Unix I/O Functions

Note

- Only 6 system-level functions support all I/O from all kinds of devices!

Commentary: Beautiful interface!

16

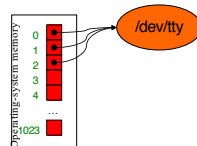
Unix I/O Example 0

Proto-getchar()

```
#include <string.h>
#include <unistd.h>

int proto_getchar(void)
{ char buf[1];
  int n;

  n = read(0, buf, 1);
  if (n==1)
    return buf[0];
  else return EOF;
}
```



and the problem is . . . too slow.

Does a system call for every character.

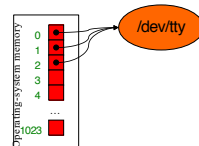
17

Unix I/O Example 1

Write "hello, world\n" to /dev/tty

```
#include <string.h>
#include <unistd.h>

int main(void)
{ char hi[] = "hello, world\n";
  size_t countWritten = 0;
  size_t countToWrite = strlen(hi);
  while (countWritten < countToWrite)
    countWritten +=
      write(1, hi + countWritten,
            countToWrite - countWritten);
  return 0;
}
```



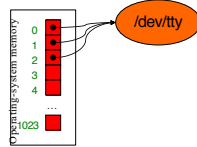
To save space,
no error handling
code is shown

18

Unix I/O Example 2

```
#include <fcntl.h>
#include <unistd.h>
int main(void)
{
    enum {BUFFERSIZE = 10};
    int fdIn, fdOut;
    int countRead, countWritten;
    char buf[BUFFERSIZE];
    fdIn = open("infile", O_RDONLY);
    fdOut = creat("outfile", 0600);
    for (;;)
    {
        countRead =
            read(fdIn, buf, BUFFERSIZE);
        if (countRead == 0) break;
        countWritten = 0;
        while (countWritten < countRead)
            countWritten +=
                write(fdOut,
                    buf + countWritten,
                    countRead - countWritten);
    }
    close(fdOut);
    close(fdIn);
    return 0;
}
```

Copy all bytes
from infile to outfile

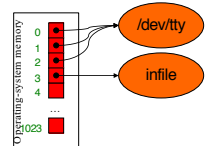


To save space,
no error handling
code is shown

19

Unix I/O Example 2

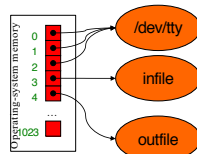
```
#include <fcntl.h>
#include <unistd.h>
int main(void)
{
    enum {BUFFERSIZE = 10};
    int fdIn, fdOut;
    int countRead, countWritten;
    char buf[BUFFERSIZE];
    fdIn = open("infile", O_RDONLY);
    fdOut = creat("outfile", 0600);
    for (;;)
    {
        countRead =
            read(fdIn, buf, BUFFERSIZE);
        if (countRead == 0) break;
        countWritten = 0;
        while (countWritten < countRead)
            countWritten +=
                write(fdOut,
                    buf + countWritten,
                    countRead - countWritten);
    }
    close(fdOut);
    close(fdIn);
    return 0;
}
```



20

Unix I/O Example 2

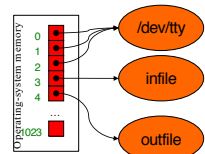
```
#include <fcntl.h>
#include <unistd.h>
int main(void)
{
    enum {BUFFERSIZE = 10};
    int fdIn, fdOut;
    int countRead, countWritten;
    char buf[BUFFERSIZE];
    fdIn = open("infile", O_RDONLY);
    fdOut = creat("outfile", 0600);
    for (;;)
    {
        countRead =
            read(fdIn, buf, BUFFERSIZE);
        if (countRead == 0) break;
        countWritten = 0;
        while (countWritten < countRead)
            countWritten +=
                write(fdOut,
                    buf + countWritten,
                    countRead - countWritten);
    }
    close(fdOut);
    close(fdIn);
    return 0;
}
```



21

Unix I/O Example 2

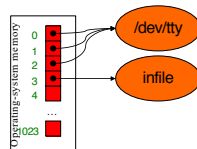
```
#include <fcntl.h>
#include <unistd.h>
int main(void)
{
    enum {BUFFERSIZE = 10};
    int fdIn, fdOut;
    int countRead, countWritten;
    char buf[BUFFERSIZE];
    fdIn = open("infile", O_RDONLY);
    fdOut = creat("outfile", 0600);
    for (;;)
    {
        countRead =
            read(fdIn, buf, BUFFERSIZE);
        if (countRead == 0) break;
        countWritten = 0;
        while (countWritten < countRead)
            countWritten +=
                write(fdOut,
                    buf + countWritten,
                    countRead - countWritten);
    }
    close(fdOut);
    close(fdIn);
    return 0;
}
```



22

Unix I/O Example 2

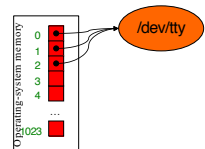
```
#include <fcntl.h>
#include <unistd.h>
int main(void)
{
    enum {BUFFERSIZE = 10};
    int fdIn, fdOut;
    int countRead, countWritten;
    char buf[BUFFERSIZE];
    fdIn = open("infile", O_RDONLY);
    fdOut = creat("outfile", 0600);
    for (;;)
    {
        countRead =
            read(fdIn, buf, BUFFERSIZE);
        if (countRead == 0) break;
        countWritten = 0;
        while (countWritten < countRead)
            countWritten +=
                write(fdOut,
                    buf + countWritten,
                    countRead - countWritten);
    }
    close(fdOut);
    close(fdIn);
    return 0;
}
```



23

Unix I/O Example 2

```
#include <fcntl.h>
#include <unistd.h>
int main(void)
{
    enum {BUFFERSIZE = 10};
    int fdIn, fdOut;
    int countRead, countWritten;
    char buf[BUFFERSIZE];
    fdIn = open("infile", O_RDONLY);
    fdOut = creat("outfile", 0600);
    for (;;)
    {
        countRead =
            read(fdIn, buf, BUFFERSIZE);
        if (countRead == 0) break;
        countWritten = 0;
        while (countWritten < countRead)
            countWritten +=
                write(fdOut,
                    buf + countWritten,
                    countRead - countWritten);
    }
    close(fdOut);
    close(fdIn);
    return 0;
}
```



24

Agenda

The C/Unix file abstraction

Unix I/O system calls

C's Standard IO library (FILE *)

+ Implementing standard C I/O using Unix I/O

Redirecting standard files

Pipes

25

25

Standard C I/O Data Structure

We want 1-character-at-a-time I/O (`getc()`, `putc()`)

We want a-few-characters-at-a-time I/O (`scanf`, `printf`)

We *could* do this with `read()` and `write()` system calls,
BUT IT WOULD BE TOO SLOW to do 1 syscall per byte

Solution: Buffered input/output as an Abstract Data Type

The **FILE** ADT

- A **FILE** object is an in-memory surrogate for an opened file
 - Created by `fopen()`
 - Destroyed by `fclose()`
- Contains metadata about the file, including underlying file descriptor
- Contains *buffers* filled/consumed in bulk, accessed by I/O calls

26

26

Implementing Buffering

Problem: poor performance

- `read()` and `write()` access a physical device (e.g., a disk)
- Reading/writing one char at a time can be time consuming
- Better to read and write in larger blocks
 - Recall **Storage Management** lecture

Solution: buffered I/O

- **Read** a large block of chars from source device into a buffer
 - Provide chars from buffer to the client as needed
- **Write** individual chars to a buffer
 - "Flush" buffer contents to destination device when buffer is full, or when file is closed, or upon client request

27

27

Standard C I/O Functions

Some of the most popular:

FILE *fopen(const char *filename, const char *mode);

- Open the file named `filename` for reading or writing
- `mode` indicates data flow direction
 - "r" means read; "w" means write, "a" means append
- Creates **FILE** structure
- Returns address of **FILE** structure

int fclose(FILE *file);

- Close the file identified by `file`
- Destroys **FILE** structure whose address is `file`
- Returns 0 on success, EOF on failure

28

28

Implementing the FILE ADT

```
enum {BUFFERSIZE = 4096};

struct File
{
    unsigned char  buffer[BUFFERSIZE]; /* buffer */
    int           bufferCount; /* num chars left in buffer */
    unsigned char *bufferPtr; /* ptr to next char in buffer */
    int           flags; /* open mode flags, etc. */
    int           fd; /* file descriptor */
};

typedef struct File FILE;

/* Initialize standard files. */
FILE *stdin = _;
FILE *stdout = _;
FILE *stderr = _;
```

Derived from
K&R Section 8.5

More complex
on our system

29

29

Implementing fopen and fclose

f = fopen(filename, "r")

- Create new **FILE** structure; set `f` to point to it
- Initialize all fields
- `f->fd = open(filename, ...)`
- Return `f`

f = fopen(filename, "w")

- Create new **FILE** structure; set `f` to point to it
- Initialize all fields
- `f->fd = creat(filename, ...)`
- Return `f`

fclose(f)

- `close(f->fd)`
- Destroy **FILE** structure

30

30

Standard C Input Functions

Some of the most popular:

```
int fgetc(FILE *file);
```

- Read a char from the file identified by `file`
- Return the char on success, `EOF` on failure

```
int getchar(void);
```

- Same as `fgetc(stdin)`

```
char *fgets(char *s, int n, FILE *file);
```

- Read at most `n-1` characters from `file` into array `s`
- Stop at EOF or after `\n`. Terminate `s` with `\0`.
- Return `s` on success, `NULL` on failure or no chars before EOF

```
char *gets(char *s);
```

- Essentially same as `fgets(s, INT_MAX, stdin)`
- Buffer overflow waiting to happen!

31

31

Standard C I/O Example 0

Recall `proto-getchar()` was too slow

```
#include <string.h>
#include <unistd.h>

int proto_getchar(void)
{
    char buf[1];
    int n;

    n = read(0, buf, 1);
    if (n==1)
        return buf[0];
    else return EOF;
}
```

of bytes to (try to) read

0 is the file descriptor of the standard input

Is `getchar()` any better?

- Not if only called once. Yes if called repeatedly!

32

32

Implementing `getchar` and `putchar`

`getchar()` calls `read()` to read one byte from fd 0

`putchar()` calls `write()` to write one byte to fd 1

```
int getchar(void)
{
    unsigned char c;
    if (read(0, &c, 1) == 1)
        return (int)c;
    else
        return EOF;
}
```

```
int putchar(int c)
{
    if (write(1, &c, 1) == 1)
        return c;
    else
        return EOF;
}
```

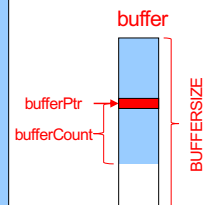
33

33

Implementing `getchar` Version 2

`getchar()` calls `read()` to read multiple chars from fd 0 into buffer

```
int getchar(void)
{
    enum {BUFFERSIZE = 4096}; /*arbitrary*/
    static unsigned char buffer[BUFFERSIZE];
    static unsigned char *bufferPtr;
    static int bufferCount = 0;
    if (bufferCount == 0) /* must read */
    {
        bufferCount =
            read(0, buffer, BUFFERSIZE);
        if (bufferCount <= 0) return EOF;
        bufferPtr = buffer;
    }
    bufferCount--;
    bufferPtr++;
    return (int)(*bufferPtr-1);
}
```



34

34

Implementing `fgetc`

```
int fgetc(FILE *f)
{
    if (f->bufferCount == 0) /* must read */
    {
        f->bufferCount =
            read(f->fd, f->buffer, BUFFERSIZE);
        if (f->bufferCount <= 0) return EOF;
        f->bufferPtr = f->buffer;
    }
    f->bufferCount--;
    f->bufferPtr++;
    return (int)(*f->bufferPtr-1);
}
```

- Accepts FILE pointer `f` as parameter
- Uses fields within `f`
- Reads from `f->fd` instead of 0

35

35

iClicker Question

Q: Consider this admonition from the `fgetc` man page. Why is it not advisable?

BUGS

It is not advisable to mix calls to input functions from the `stdio` library with low-level calls to `read(2)` for the file descriptor associated with the input stream; the results will be undefined and very probably not what you want.

- `read` after `fgetc` may skip some input
- `fgetc` after `read` may skip some input
- Poor performance.
- The same data may be input twice

36

Standard C Input Functions

Some of the most popular:

```
int fscanf(FILE *file, const char *format, ...);
```

- Read chars from the file identified by `file`
- Convert to values, as directed by `format`
- Copy values to memory
- Return count of values successfully scanned

```
int scanf(const char *format, ...);
```

- Same as `fscanf(stdin, format, ...)`

37

37

Standard C Output Functions

Some of the most popular:

```
int fputc(int c, FILE *file);
```

- Write `c` (converted to a char) to file
- Return `c` on success, `EOF` on failure

```
int putchar(int c);
```

- Same as `fputc(c, stdout)`

```
int fputs(const char *s, FILE *file);
```

- Write string `s` to file
- Return non-negative on success, `EOF` on error

```
int puts(const char *s);
```

- Essentially same as `fputs(s, stdout)`

38

38

Standard C Output Functions

Some of the most popular:

```
int fprintf(FILE *file, const char *format, ...);
```

- Write chars to the file identified by `file`
- Convert values to chars, as directed by `format`
- Return count of chars successfully written
- Works by calling `fputc()` repeatedly

```
int printf(const char *format, ...);
```

- Same as `fprintf(stdout, format, ...)`

39

39

Implementing putchar Version 2

`putchar()` calls `write()` to write multiple chars from buffer to `fd`

```
int putchar(int c)
{
    enum { BUFFERSIZE = 4096 };
    static char buffer[BUFFERSIZE];
    static int bufferCount = 0;
    if (bufferCount == BUFFERSIZE) /* must write */
    {
        int countWritten = 0;
        while (countWritten < bufferCount)
        {
            int count =
                write(1, buffer+countWritten, BUFFERSIZE-countWritten);
            if (count <= 0) return EOF;
            countWritten += count;
        }
        bufferCount = 0;
    }
    buffer[bufferCount] = (char)c;
    bufferCount++;
    return c;
}
```

Real implementation
also flushes buffer
in other conditions.

40

40

Implementing fputc

```
int fputc(int c, FILE *f)
{
    if (f->bufferCount == BUFFERSIZE) /* must write */
    {
        int countWritten = 0;
        while (countWritten < f->bufferCount)
        {
            int count =
                write(f->fd, f->buffer+countWritten,
                    BUFFERSIZE-countWritten);
            if (count <= 0) return EOF;
            countWritten += count;
        }
        f->bufferCount = 0;
    }
    f->buffer[f->bufferCount] = (char)c;
    f->bufferCount++;
    return c;
}
```

- Accepts FILE pointer `f` as parameter
- Uses fields within `f`
- Writes to `f->fd` instead of 1

Real implementation
likely calls `flush()` or
similar, to avoid code
copying within module,
facilitate flushing for
other conditions.

41

41

Standard C I/O Example 1

Write "hello, world\n" to `stdout`

```
#include <stdio.h>
int main(void)
{
    char hi[] = "hello world\n";
    size_t i = 0;
    while (hi[i] != '\0')
    {
        putchar(hi[i]);
        i++;
    }
    return 0;
}
```

Simple
Portable
Efficient (via buffering)

```
#include <stdio.h>
int main(void)
{
    puts("hello, world");
    return 0;
}
```

```
#include <stdio.h>
int main(void)
{
    printf("%s", "hello, world\n");
    return 0;
}
```

42

42

Standard C I/O Example 2

Copy all bytes from infile to outfile

```
#include <stdio.h>
int main(void)
{
    int c;
    FILE *infile;
    FILE *outfile;
    infile = fopen("infile", "r");
    outfile = fopen("outfile", "w");
    while ((c = fgetc(infile)) != EOF)
        fputc(c, outfile);
    fclose(outfile);
    fclose(infile);
    return 0;
}
```

Simple
Portable
Efficient (via buffering)

43

Standard C I/O Functions

Some of the most popular:

```
int fflush(FILE *file);
    • On an output file: write any buffered chars to file
    • On an input file: behavior undefined / nonportable
    • file == NULL ⇒ flush buffers of all open files

int fseek(FILE *file, long offset, int origin);
    • Set the file position of file
    • Subsequent read/write accesses data starting at that position
    • Origin: SEEK_SET, SEEK_CUR, SEEK_END

int ftell(FILE *file);
    • Return file position of file on success, -1 on error
```

44

Standard C Buffering

Question: When are buffers guaranteed to be flushed?

Answers:

If writing to an ordinary file

- (1) when File's buffer becomes full
- (2) when Process calls `fflush()` on that file
- (3) when Process terminates normally

If writing to `stdout` (in addition to previous)

- (4) if `stdout` is bound to terminal:
 - when `'\n'` is appended to buffer
- (5) if `stdin` and `stdout` are both bound to terminal:
 - when read from `stdin` occurs

If writing to `stderr`

- Irrelevant; `stderr` is unbuffered

46

Standard C Buffering Example

```
#include <stdio.h>
int main(void)
{
    int dividend, divisor, quotient;

    printf("Dividend: ");
    scanf("%d", &dividend);

    printf("Divisor: ");
    scanf("%d", &divisor);

    printf("The quotient is ");
    quotient = dividend / divisor;
    printf("%d\n", quotient);

    return 0;
}
```

Output buffered
Buffer flushed
Output buffered
Buffer flushed
Output buffered
Buffer flushed ...
if it gets here.

```
$ pgm
Dividend: 6
Divisor: 2
The quotient is 3
$
```

```
$ pgm
Dividend: 6
Divisor: 0
Floating point exception
$
```

47

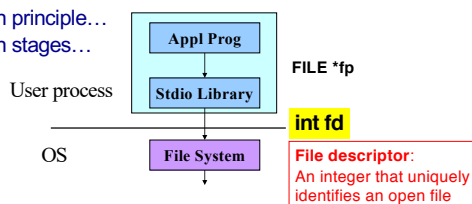
Standard C I/O Summary

Question:

- How to implement standard C I/O data structure and functions using Unix I/O data structures and functions?

Answer:

- In principle...
- In stages...



48

Implementing Standard C I/O Functions

Standard C Function	In Unix Implemented by Calling
<code>fopen()</code>	<code>open()</code> or <code>creat()</code>
<code>fclose()</code>	<code>close()</code>

49

Implementing Standard C I/O Functions

Standard C Function	In Unix Implemented by Calling
fgetc()	read()
getchar()	fgetc()
fgets()	fgetc()
gets()	fgets()
fscanf()	fgetc()
scanf()	fscanf()

50

50

Implementing Standard C I/O Functions

Standard C Function	In Unix Implemented by Calling
fputc()	write()
putchar()	fputc()
fputs()	fputc()
puts()	fputs()
fprintf()	fputc()
printf()	fprintf()

51

51

Implementing Standard C I/O Functions

Standard C Function	In Unix Implemented by Calling
fflush()	write()
fseek()	lseek()
ftell()	lseek()

52

52

Agenda

The C/Unix file abstraction
 Unix I/O system calls
 C's Standard IO library (FILE *)
 + Implementing standard C I/O using Unix I/O
Redirecting standard files
 Pipes

53

53

Redirection

Unix allows programmatic redirection of **stdin**, **stdout**, or **stderr**

How?

- Use `open()`, `creat()`, and `close()` system-level functions
- Use `dup()` system-level function

`int dup(int oldfd);`

- Create a copy of file descriptor `oldfd`
- Old and new file descriptors may be used interchangeably; they refer to the same open file table and thus share file position and file status flags
- Uses the **lowest-numbered** unused descriptor for the new descriptor
- Returns the new descriptor, or -1 if an error occurred.

Paraphrasing man page

54

54

Redirection Example

How does shell implement `somepgm > somefile`?

```
pid = fork();
if (pid == 0)
{
    /* in child */
    fd = creat("somefile", 0600);
    close(1);
    dup(fd);
    close(fd);
    execvp(somepgm, someargv);
    fprintf(stderr, "exec failed\n");
    exit(EXIT_FAILURE);
}
/* in parent */
wait(NULL);
```

55

55

Redirection Example Trace (1)

Parent Process

File descriptor table

```
pid = fork();
if (pid == 0)
{ /* in child */
  fd = creat("somefile", 0600);
  close(1);
  dup(fd);
  close(fd);
  execvp(somepgm, someargv);
  sprintf(stderr, "exec failed\n");
  exit(EXIT_FAILURE);
}
/* in parent */
wait(NULL);
```

Parent has file descriptor table; first three point to "terminal"

56

Redirection Example Trace (2)

Parent Process

File descriptor table

```
pid = fork();
if (pid == 0)
{ /* in child */
  fd = creat("somefile", 0600);
  close(1);
  dup(fd);
  close(fd);
  execvp(somepgm, someargv);
  sprintf(stderr, "exec failed\n");
  exit(EXIT_FAILURE);
}
/* in parent */
wait(NULL);
```

Parent forks child; child has identical-but distinct file descriptor table

57

Redirection Example Trace (3)

Parent Process

File descriptor table

```
pid = fork();
if (pid == 0)
{ /* in child */
  fd = creat("somefile", 0600);
  close(1);
  dup(fd);
  close(fd);
  execvp(somepgm, someargv);
  sprintf(stderr, "exec failed\n");
  exit(EXIT_FAILURE);
}
/* in parent */
wait(NULL);
```

Let's say OS gives CPU to parent; parent waits

58

Redirection Example Trace (4)

Parent Process

File descriptor table

```
pid = fork();
if (pid == 0)
{ /* in child */
  fd = creat("somefile", 0600);
  close(1);
  dup(fd);
  close(fd);
  execvp(somepgm, someargv);
  sprintf(stderr, "exec failed\n");
  exit(EXIT_FAILURE);
}
/* in parent */
wait(NULL);
```

OS gives CPU to child; child creates somefile

59

Redirection Example Trace (5)

Parent Process

File descriptor table

```
pid = fork();
if (pid == 0)
{ /* in child */
  fd = creat("somefile", 0600);
  close(1);
  dup(fd);
  close(fd);
  execvp(somepgm, someargv);
  sprintf(stderr, "exec failed\n");
  exit(EXIT_FAILURE);
}
/* in parent */
wait(NULL);
```

Child closes file descriptor 1 (stdout)

60

Redirection Example Trace (6)

Parent Process

File descriptor table

```
pid = fork();
if (pid == 0)
{ /* in child */
  fd = creat("somefile", 0600);
  close(1);
  dup(fd);
  close(fd);
  execvp(somepgm, someargv);
  sprintf(stderr, "exec failed\n");
  exit(EXIT_FAILURE);
}
/* in parent */
wait(NULL);
```

Child duplicates file descriptor 3 into first unused spot

61

Redirection Example Trace (7)

Parent Process Child Process

File descriptor table

```
pid = fork();
if (pid == 0)
{ /* in child */
  fd = creat("somefile", 0600);
  close(1);
  dup(fd);
  close(fd);
  execcp(somepgm, someargv);
  printf(stderr, "execc failed\n");
  exit(EXIT_FAILURE);
}
/* in parent */
wait(NULL);
```

Child closes file descriptor 3

File descriptor table

```
pid = fork();
if (pid == 0)
{ /* in child */
  fd = creat("somefile", 0600);
  close(1);
  dup(fd);
  close(fd);
  execcp(somepgm, someargv);
  printf(stderr, "execc failed\n");
  exit(EXIT_FAILURE);
}
/* in parent */
wait(NULL);
```

62

Redirection Example Trace (8)

Parent Process Child Process

File descriptor table

```
pid = fork();
if (pid == 0)
{ /* in child */
  fd = creat("somefile", 0600);
  close(1);
  dup(fd);
  close(fd);
  execcp(somepgm, someargv);
  printf(stderr, "execc failed\n");
  exit(EXIT_FAILURE);
}
/* in parent */
wait(NULL);
```

Child calls `execcp()`

File descriptor table

```
pid = fork();
if (pid == 0)
{ /* in child */
  fd = creat("somefile", 0600);
  close(1);
  dup(fd);
  close(fd);
  execcp(somepgm, someargv);
  printf(stderr, "execc failed\n");
  exit(EXIT_FAILURE);
}
/* in parent */
wait(NULL);
```

63

Redirection Example Trace (9)

Parent Process Child Process

File descriptor table

```
pid = fork();
if (pid == 0)
{ /* in child */
  fd = creat("somefile", 0600);
  close(1);
  dup(fd);
  close(fd);
  execcp(somepgm, someargv);
  printf(stderr, "execc failed\n");
  exit(EXIT_FAILURE);
}
/* in parent */
wait(NULL);
```

Somepgm executes with stdout redirected to somefile

File descriptor table

```
somepgm
```

64

Redirection Example Trace (10)

Parent Process

File descriptor table

```
pid = fork();
if (pid == 0)
{ /* in child */
  fd = creat("somefile", 0600);
  close(1);
  dup(fd);
  close(fd);
  execcp(somefile, someargv);
  printf(stderr, "execc failed\n");
  exit(EXIT_FAILURE);
}
/* in parent */
wait(NULL);
```

Somepgm exits; parent returns from `wait()` and proceeds

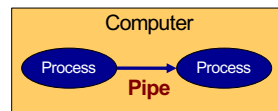
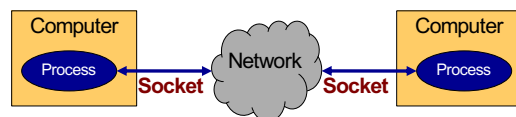
65

Agenda

- The C/Unix file abstraction
- Unix I/O system calls
- C's Standard IO library (FILE *)
 - + Implementing standard C I/O using Unix I/O
- Redirecting standard files
- Pipes**

66

Inter-Process Communication (IPC)



67

IPC Mechanisms

Socket

- Mechanism for **two-way** communication between processes on **any computers** on same network
- Processes created independently
- Used for client/server communication (e.g., Web)

Pipe

- Mechanism for **one-way** communication between processes on the **same computer**
- Allows parent process to communicate with child process
- Allows two "sibling" processes to communicate
- Used mostly for a **pipeline of filters**

Both support **file abstraction**

68

68

Pipeline Examples

When debugging your shell program...

grep alloc *.c

- In all of the .c files in the working directory, display all lines that contain "alloc"

cat *.c | decomment | grep alloc

- In all of the .c files in the working directory, display all non-comment lines that contain "alloc"

cat *.c | decomment | grep alloc | more

- In all of the .c files in the working directory, display all non-comment lines that contain "alloc", one screen at a time

70

70

Creating a Pipe

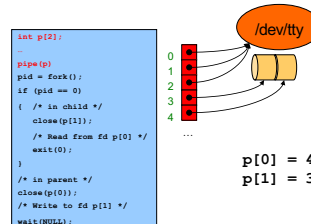
int pipe(int pipefd[2])

- **pipe()** creates a pipe, a unidirectional data channel that can be used for interprocess communication
- The array **pipefd** is used to return two file descriptors referring to the ends of the pipe
- **pipefd[0]** refers to the read end of the pipe
- **pipefd[1]** refers to the write end of the pipe
- Data written to the write end of the pipe is buffered by the kernel until it is read from the read end of the pipe
- Quoting **man -s2 pipe**

71

71

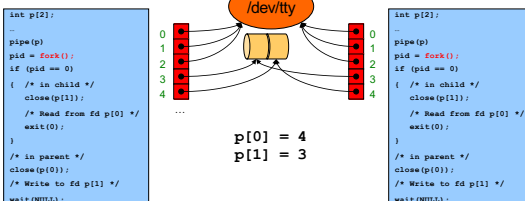
Pipe Example 1 (1)



72

72

Pipe Example 1 (2)

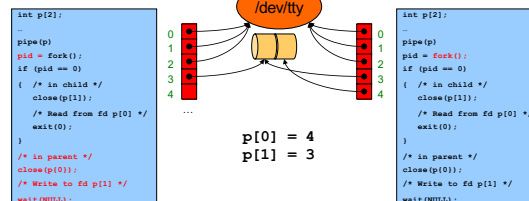


73

73

Pipe Example 1 (3)

Parent process sends data to child process

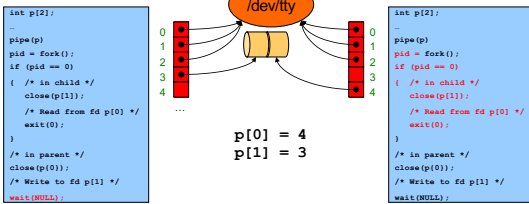


74

74

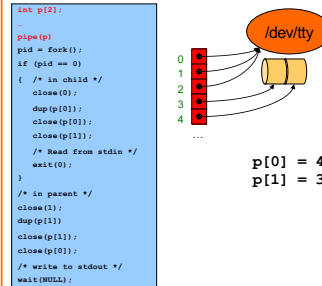
Pipe Example 1 (4)

Child process receives data from parent process



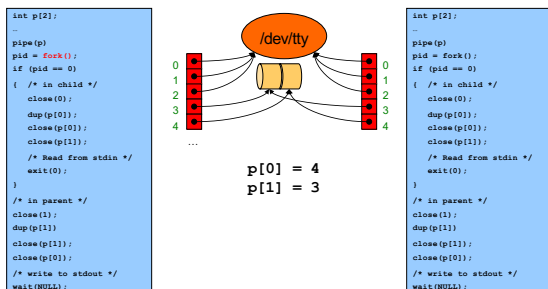
75

Pipe Example 2 (1)



76

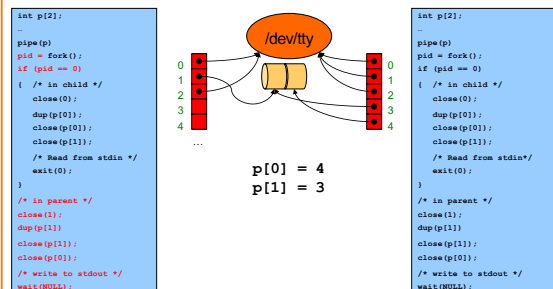
Pipe Example 2 (2)



77

Pipe Example 2 (3)

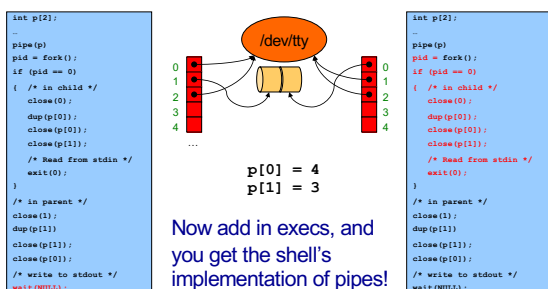
Parent sends data to child through stdout



78

Pipe Example 2 (4)

Child receives data from parent through stdin



79

Summary

The C/Unix file abstraction

Unix I/O

- File descriptors, file descriptor tables, file tables
- `creat()`, `open()`, `close()`, `read()`, `write()`, `lseek()`

C's Standard I/O

- `FILE` structure
- `fopen()`, `fclose()`, `fgetc()`, `fputc()`, ...

Implementing standard C I/O using Unix I/O

- Buffering

Redirecting standard files

- `dup()`

Pipes

- `pipe()`

80