
Recitation 2

— Welcome back, everybody! —

Today's Topics

- Signals
- Redirection and Pipes
- Process Groups

Signals

Signals

- Software interrupt - a notification sent to a process
- An example of inter-process communication
 - What is another example of inter-process communication?
- From the OS: some sort of exception has occurred
- From another process: used to coordinate activity or as notification

Activity: Responses to Signals

In each scenario, determine whether the signal was blocked, ignored, used default handling, or used a handler function (non-default)

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2. In penn-shell, I hit Ctrl+Z. In response, penn-shell reprompted.

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3. The parent process takes terminal control from its child and gives it to itself. The parent process was not stopped by SIGTTIN or SIGTTOU, and continues as normal.

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4. A process received a signal, and its signal handler called vec_push. While in the middle of executing vec_push, it received the same signal. Once the first call to vec_push returned, the signal handler ran vec_push again.

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Redirections and Pipes

Pipelines

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Pipelined processes run in parallel

Let's take a look at two_pipe_animation :)

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- How might we achieve this elegant procedure?
- Closing redundant file descriptors
 - What does the child not use?
 - What does the parent need to hold on to before forking the next child?

Process Groups

Activity: True or False

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4. You can only call fg on a background process that is stopped.

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4. You can only call fg on a background process that is stopped. **FALSE**
5. A parent process can call wait() or waitpid() on a child that is in a different process group.

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2. Only foreground jobs can receive the signals sent from CTRL+C and CTRL+Z. **TRUE**
3. Only foreground jobs can receive SIGINT and SIGTSTP. **FALSE**
4. You can only call fg on a background process that is stopped. **FALSE**
5. A parent process can call wait() or waitpid() on a child that is in a different process group. **TRUE**

Process Groups and waitpid()

`waitpid(pid_t pid, int *status, int options)`

Options:

- WNOHANG: do not wait for process to finish, but “collect” already finished or changed-state processes. Move on otherwise.
- WUNTRACED: also return if the child has stopped

Pid:

- -1: wait for all children
- Negative of pgid: wait for children of a specific process group
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Be aware that STOP and CONTINUE are also detected by waitpid()!

Waiting in Project 2

- How does waitpid and its options come up?
- When should terminal control change?
- Will you encounter zombies? If so, how will you handle them?
- How do process groups factor in?

Waiting in Project 2

- How does waitpid and its options come up?
 - Depending on the job being in fg or bg, we need different waitpid args
- When should terminal control change?
 - When the role of “foreground process group” changes
- Will you encounter zombies? If so, how will you handle them?
 - When background jobs finish first, they will be zombies until reaped by parent calling waitpid()
- How do process groups factor in?
 - One command (job) with all its pipelined components will correspond to one process group

Shell OH?