Operating Systems – CSE x61

Simple Shell

By students

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Program Overview

The program is written In C programming Language for use on UNIX/Linux operating systems (OSs) as a simple shell. It's implemented by splitting the algorithm into multiple functions as a procedural programming method, following is the algorithm, code description, results for sample runs, and processes hierarchy.

Program Algorithm

1- Get input from the user and store it as string (buf).

2- Check (buf) for the special cases, empty input, exit, or help, and handle their occurrences.

3- Convert the user string (buf) to an array of strings (command) with the command at the first index and the parameters follow it.

4- Check (command) for cd command and handle its occurrence.

5- Fork a new child process to handle the user required process and report the log file.

6- Pass the (command) array to execvp function to proceed.

7- Wait the process until finishing its job and terminate it only if & doesn't exist at the end of the command, otherwise, skip waiting this process.

8- Handle (SIGCHLD) signal, recording the termination of a process to the log file.

9- In steps 7, 8, keep record of zombie processes, those who have been skipped without waiting and were terminated later.

10- Bury Zombie processes -if they existed- before prompting for a new input.

Code Description

- As usual, the C code starts with the libraries needed

```c
#include <stdio.h>
#include <stdlib.h>
#include <string.h>
#include <sys/types.h>
#include <sys/wait.h>
#include <unistd.h>
#include <signal.h>
#include <errno.h>
```

- Next, we define the global constants used in the program

```c
#define MAXCOM 256  // max number of letters to be supported
#define MAXLIST 100 // max number of commands to be supported
```

- Also, we define the global variables

```c
char buf[MAXCOM];       // string to store the command
char *command[MAXLIST]; // an array for command and arguments
char i;                 // global for loop counter
pid_t child_pid;        // global variable for the child process ID
int Zombie =0;          // global Counter of Zombie Processes
```

- Then, we initialize the functions that will be used later

```c
//Function Initialization
void init_shell();  // Prepare log file and output greeting message
void get_cmd();     // get command from the user
void openHelp();    // open the help for the user
void convert_cmd(); // split string into command
void handler();     // to handle SIGCHLD signal
int cd(char *path); // for the cd command
void log_write(char);// writes to the log file when any child process is started or terminated
void bury_Zombies();//To Bury Zombie Processes to prevent their stacking
```

- The main function calls another function called init_shell which creates or clears the log file before writing on it to avoid appending on garbage data, it also prints a well-organized message to welcome the user.

```c
/*Function Definition*/
void init_shell()
{
    fclose(fopen("log.txt", "w")); // to Open / clear the log file content before writing in it

    // Greeting shell during startup
    printf("\n\n\n\t  Welcom to our SHELL\n"
           " ____________________________________________________"
           "\n|write help to see commands that you can use|\n"
           " ____________________________________________________\n\n\n\n\n");

    sleep(1);       //No Need
}
```

- Then the main function prepares for receiving SIGCHLD signal and calls a function called handler which in turn calls another function called log_write to write into the log file that a process was terminated.

```
void handler(void)
{
    Zombie++;       //Not buried Zombie
    // writes to the log file when any child process is terminated
    log_write('c');

}
```

```
void log_write(char type){
    // writes to the log file when any child process is started or terminated
    FILE *pf;
    // open the file to wirte in it
    pf = fopen("log.txt", "a");
    if (pf == NULL)
        perror("Error opening file.");
    else if(type == 'c')// adds the trmination message to the file
       fprintf(pf, "A Child process was terminated.\n");
    else if(type == 'o')                // adds the starting message to the file
       fprintf(pf, "Child process %d was started.\n",child_pid);
    fclose(pf); // close the file
}
```

Note: each time a process terminates, we increment the zombie counter, in contrast, we decrement it after each *wait* call, so, the variable Zombie represents the number of available zombie processes

- The main function calls get_cmd function which takes string input from the user, by taking data of size MAXCOM from stdin file to buf array, also the function prints the user environment variable before each prompt.

```
void get_cmd()
{
    // get command from the user

    char *username = getenv("USER"); // get the user name
    printf("@%s>> ", username);
    fgets(buf, MAXCOM, stdin);
    // neglect the newline at the end of the command
    if ((strlen(buf) > 0) && (buf[strlen(buf) - 1] == '\n'))
        buf[strlen(buf) - 1] = '\0';
}
```

- Three conditional statements now appear to implement step 2 in the algorithm for checking empty input, exit, or help. The latter calls a function to print the available commands to the user.

```c
/*Deriving Code*/
int main()
{
    init_shell();
    signal(SIGCHLD, handler);
    while (1)
    {
        // get command from user
        get_cmd();
        // check empty commands
        if (!strcmp("", buf))
            continue;       //Prompt the user for the next command
        // check for "exit" command
        if (!strcmp("exit", buf))
            break; //or exit(1);

        if (!strcmp("help", buf))
        {
            // if the user needs help
            openHelp();
            continue;       //Prompt the user for the next command
        }

        convert_cmd();
```

- Now, another function *convert_cmd* call appears to convert the input stored at variable buf to the desired form of command to be passed to *execvp* function later, which is step 3 at the algorithm.

```c
void convert_cmd()
{
    // split string into command
    char *ptr;
    i = 0;
    ptr = strtok(buf, " ");
    while (ptr != NULL)
    {
        command[i] = ptr;
        i++;
        ptr = strtok(NULL, " ");
    }

    // check for "&"
    if (!strcmp("&", command[i - 1]))
    {
        command[i - 1] = NULL;
        command[i] = "&";
        sleep(1); // sleep untill run the process
    }
    else
    {
        command[i] = NULL;
    }
}
```

- Now, we implement step 5 at the algorithm, checking the special condition for *cd* command and handling it using a user defined function called *cd* with the path as the parameter at index 1 of the command array.

```
convert_cmd();

if (!strcmp("cd", command[0]))
{
    if (cd(command[1]) < 0)
    {
        perror(command[1]);
    }

    // Skip the fork
    continue;       //Prompt the user for the next command
}
```

cd is defined as:

```
int cd(char *path)
{
    // for the cd command
    return chdir(path);
}
```

- Implementing step 5, we fork a new child process

```
child_pid = fork();

if (-1 == child_pid)
{//no child process
    printf("failed to create a child\n");
}//end if
else if (0 == child_pid)
{// In Child process
    // execute a command
    if (execvp(command[0], command) < 0)
    {
        // handle errors
        perror(command[0]);
        exit(1);
    }//end if
}//end else if
else
{//In parent Process
    log_write('o');// write to the log that a child process is started
    // wait for the command to finish if "&" is not present
    if (NULL == command[i])
    {
        waitpid(child_pid, NULL, 0);
        Zombie--;       //Buried Zombie

    }//end if
}//end else

    bury_Zombies();     //bury zombies before reprompting if they existed
}//end while

    return 0;
}//end main
```

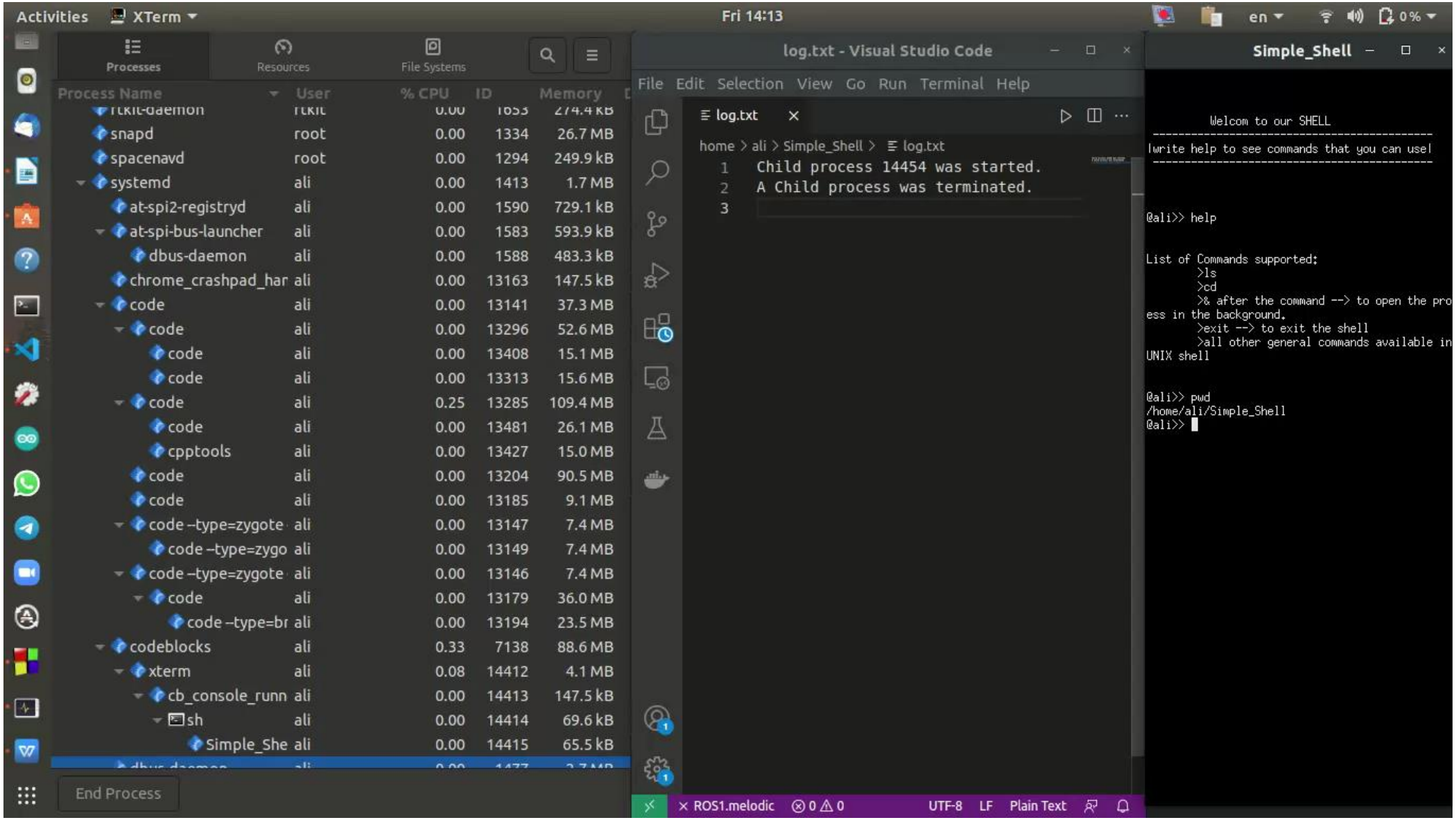
- Forking a new process we face three conditions, First, no process initialized, where the program prints an error to the user with that fact. Second, the child process is running, where the program passes the commands to be executed to the system call function *execvp*, finally the program issues *exit* system call to terminate the process after its execution. Third, the parent process is running, where it calls the function *log_write* to write that a process has started, then it waits for the child process to terminate if and only if the & character didn't exist, otherwise it is skipped letting the process run at the background.

- Finally, the program buries any zombie process before prompting again using the function call *bury_Zombies* , following is its defining code

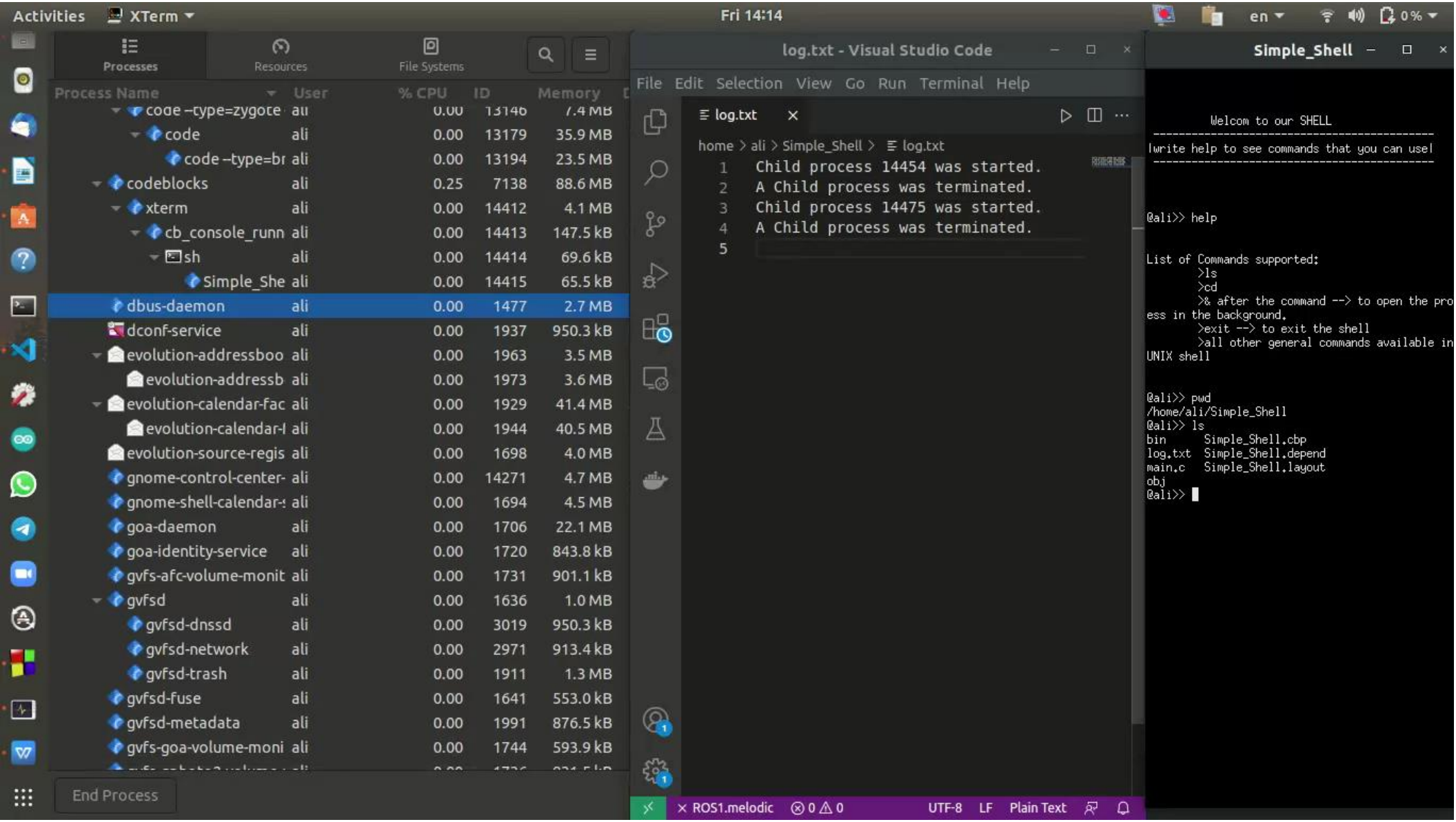
```
void bury_Zombies(void){
    //To Bury Zombie Processes
    while(Zombie >=1){wait(NULL);Zombie--;}
}
```

  with the variable *Zombie* equals the number of backgrounds terminated processes.

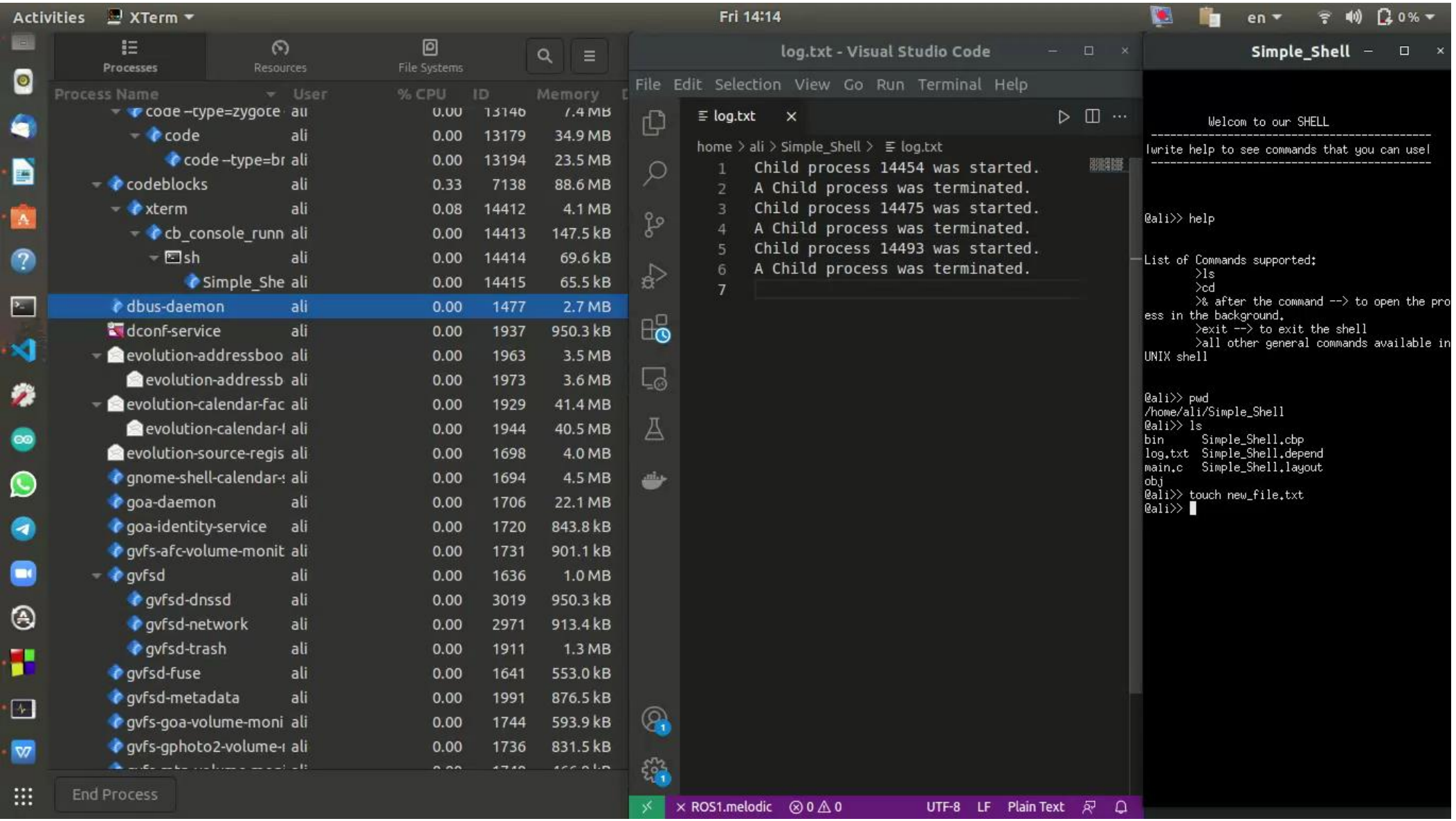
Results and Sample Runs



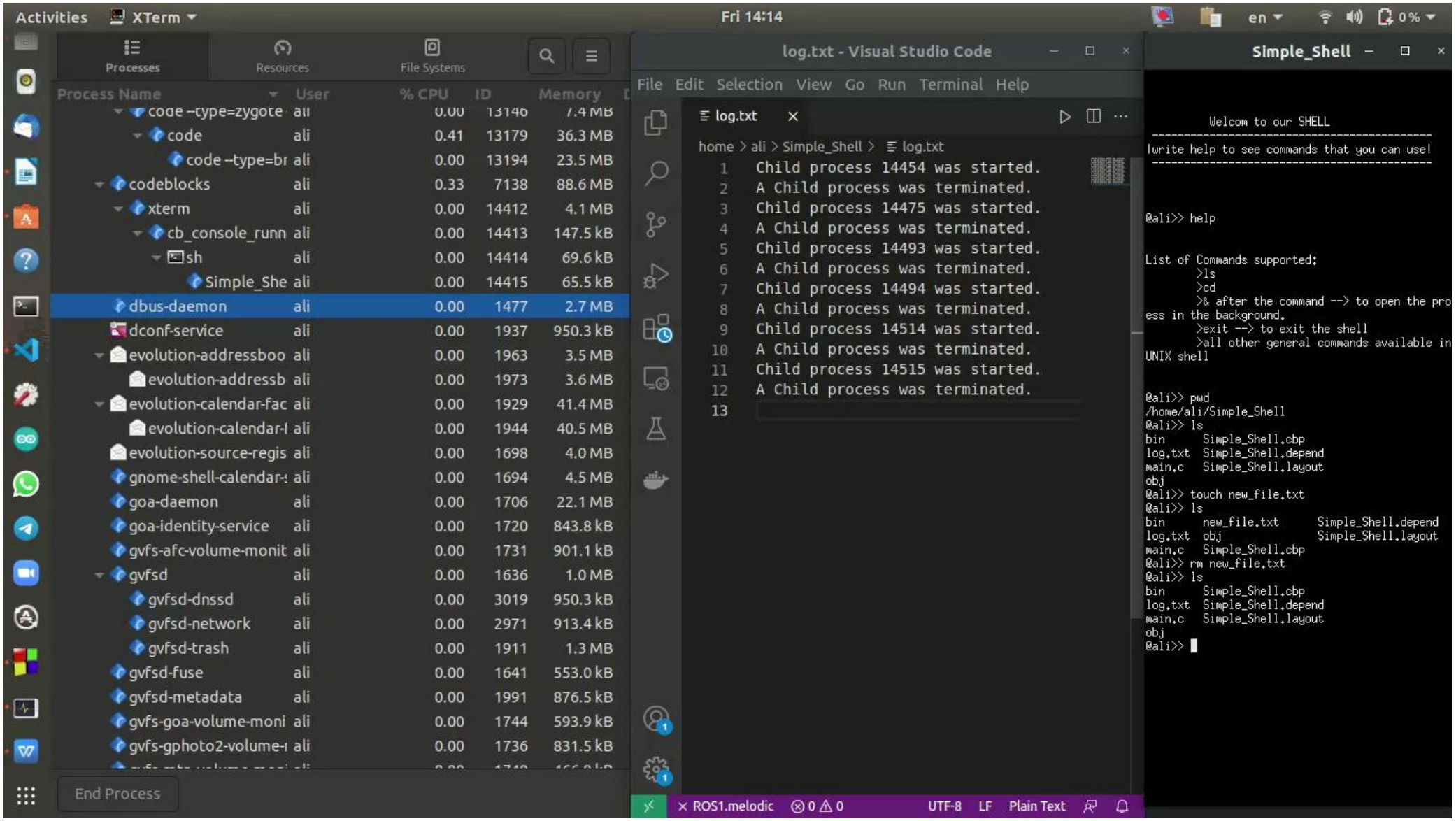
>>> help, then >>>pwd


Activities
XTerm
Fri 14:14
en
0%
Processes
Resources
File Systems
Process Name
User
% CPU
ID
Memory
code --type=zygote ali 0.00 13146 7.4 MB
code ali 0.00 13179 35.9 MB
code --type=br ali 0.00 13194 23.5 MB
codeblocks ali 0.25 7138 88.6 MB
xterm ali 0.00 14412 4.1 MB
cb_console_runn ali 0.00 14413 147.5 kB
sh ali 0.00 14414 69.6 kB
Simple_She ali 0.00 14415 65.5 kB
dbus-daemon ali 0.00 1477 2.7 MB
dconf-service ali 0.00 1937 950.3 kB
evolution-addressboo ali 0.00 1963 3.5 MB
evolution-addressb ali 0.00 1973 3.6 MB
evolution-calendar-fac ali 0.00 1929 41.4 MB
evolution-calendar-l ali 0.00 1944 40.5 MB
evolution-source-regis ali 0.00 1698 4.0 MB
gnome-control-center- ali 0.00 14271 4.7 MB
gnome-shell-calendar-s ali 0.00 1694 4.5 MB
goa-daemon ali 0.00 1706 22.1 MB
goa-identity-service ali 0.00 1720 843.8 kB
gvfs-afc-volume-monit ali 0.00 1731 901.1 kB
gvfsd ali 0.00 1636 1.0 MB
gvfsd-dnssd ali 0.00 3019 950.3 kB
gvfsd-network ali 0.00 2971 913.4 kB
gvfsd-trash ali 0.00 1911 1.3 MB
gvfsd-fuse ali 0.00 1641 553.0 kB
gvfsd-metadata ali 0.00 1991 876.5 kB
gvfs-goa-volume-moni ali 0.00 1744 593.9 kB
End Process
log.txt - Visual Studio Code
File Edit Selection View Go Run Terminal Help
log.txt
home > ali > Simple_Shell > log.txt
1 Child process 14454 was started.
2 A Child process was terminated.
3 Child process 14475 was started.
4 A Child process was terminated.
5
ROS1.melodic
UTF-8 LF Plain Text
Simple_Shell
Welcom to our SHELL
!write help to see commands that you can use!
@ali>> help
List of Commands supported:
>ls
>cd
>& after the command --> to open the process in the background.
>exit --> to exit the shell
>all other general commands available in UNIX shell
@ali>> pwd
/home/ali/Simple_Shell
@ali>> ls
bin Simple_Shell.cbp
log.txt Simple_Shell.depend
main.c Simple_Shell.layout
obj
@ali>>

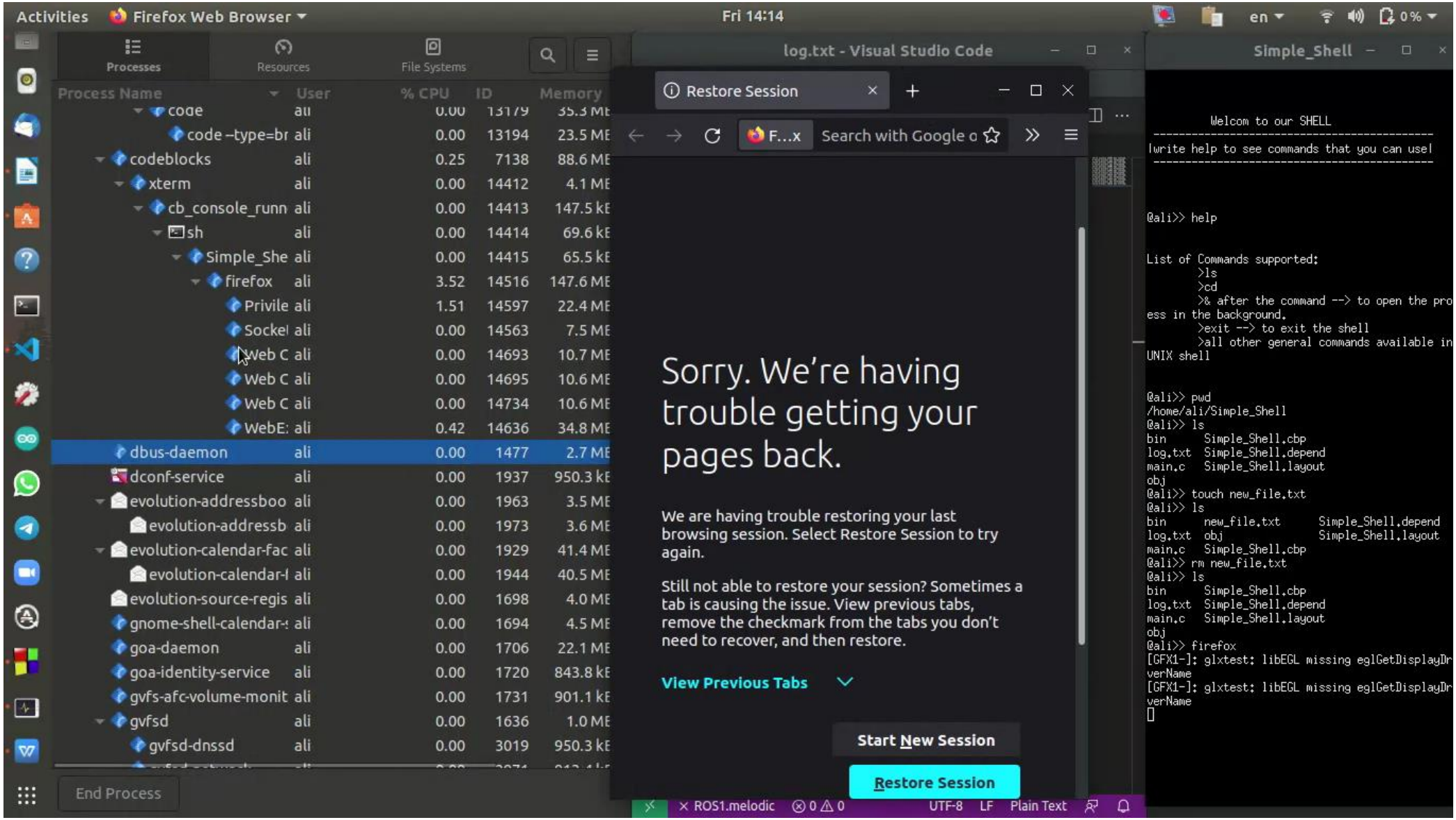
>>> ls



>>> touch new_file.txt



>>> rm new_file.txt


Activities
Firefox Web Browser
Fri 14:14
en
0%
Processes
Resources
File Systems
Process Name
User
% CPU
ID
Memory
code
code --type=br
codeblocks
xterm
cb_console_runn
sh
Simple_She
firefox
Privile
Socke
Web C
Web C
Web C
WebE:
dbus-daemon
dconf-service
evolution-addressboo
evolution-addressb
evolution-calendar-fac
evolution-calendar-f
evolution-source-regis
gnome-shell-calendar-
goa-daemon
goa-identity-service
gvfs-afc-volume-monit
gvfsd
gvfsd-dnssd
End Process
log.txt - Visual Studio Code
Restore Session
F...x
Search with Google o
Sorry. We're having trouble getting your pages back.
We are having trouble restoring your last browsing session. Select Restore Session to try again.
Still not able to restore your session? Sometimes a tab is causing the issue. View previous tabs, remove the checkmark from the tabs you don't need to recover, and then restore.
View Previous Tabs
Start New Session
Restore Session
ROS1.melodic
UTF-8
LF
Plain Text
Simple_Shell
Welcom to our SHELL
!write help to see commands that you can use!
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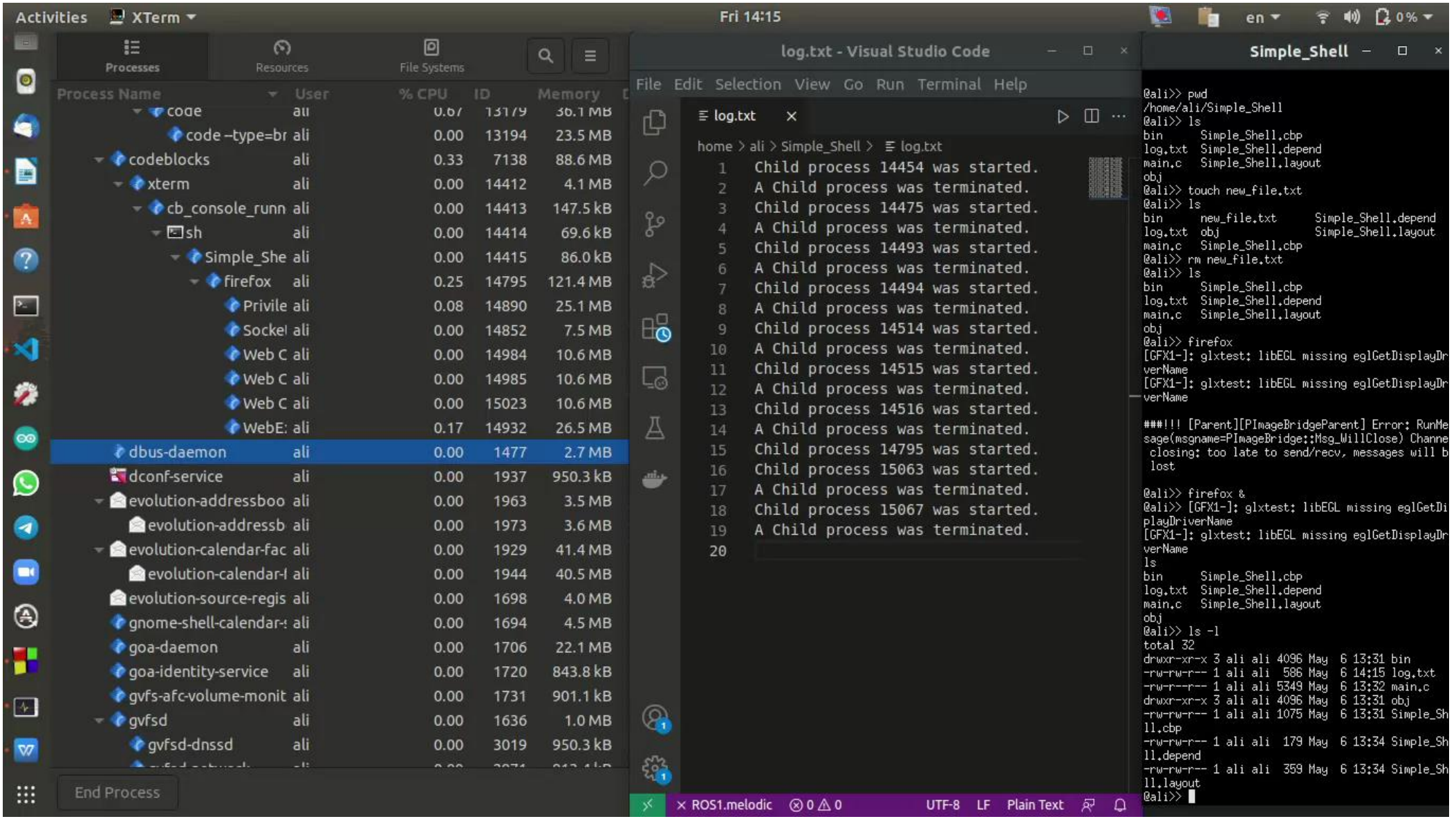
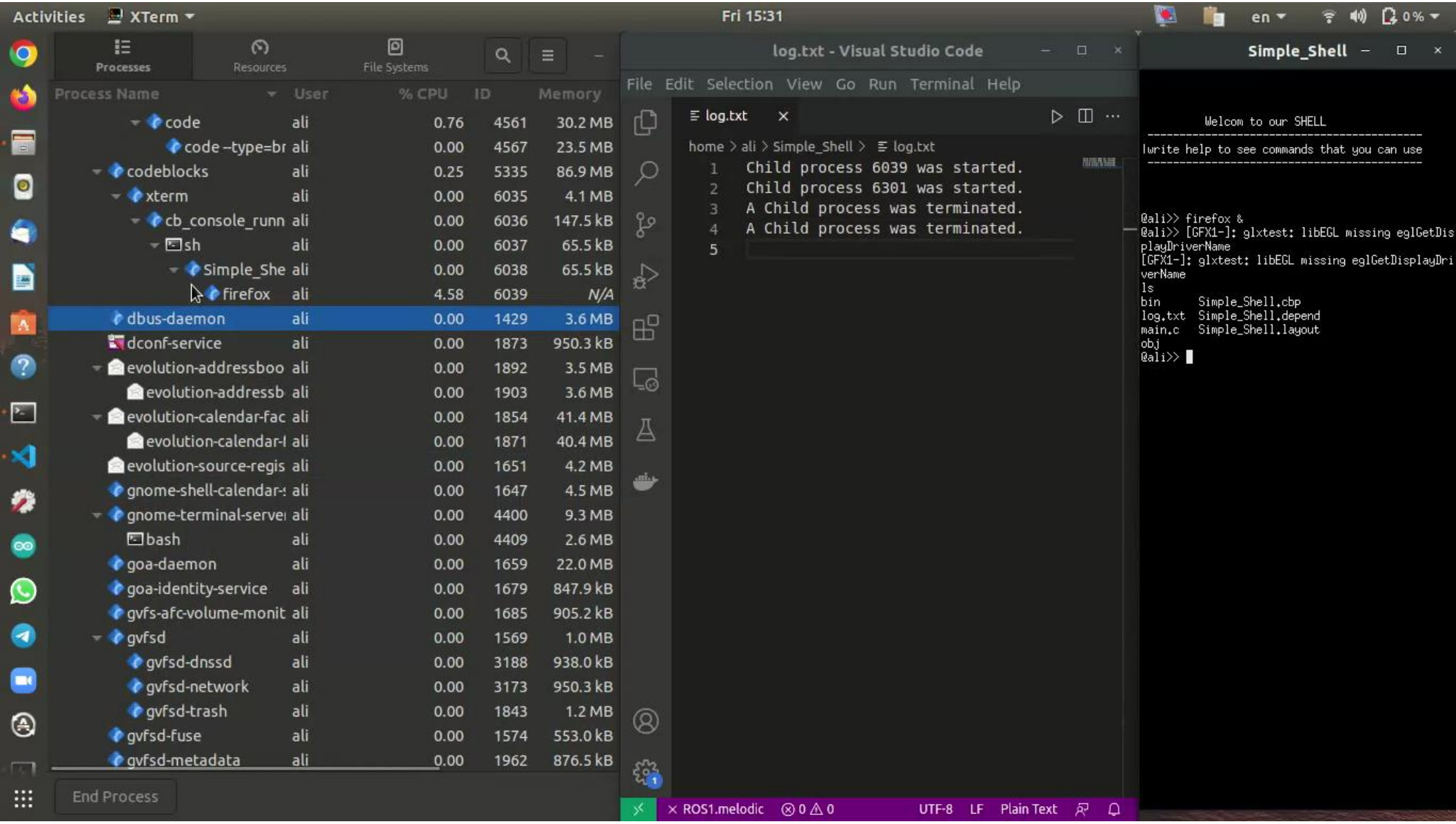
>all other general commands available in UNIX shell
@ali>> pwd
/home/ali/Simple_Shell
@ali>> ls
bin Simple_Shell.cbp
log.txt Simple_Shell.depend
main.c Simple_Shell.layout
obj
@ali>> touch new_file.txt
@ali>> ls
bin new_file.txt Simple_Shell.depend
log.txt obj Simple_Shell.layout
main.c Simple_Shell.cbp
@ali>> rm new_file.txt
@ali>> ls
bin Simple_Shell.cbp
log.txt Simple_Shell.depend
main.c Simple_Shell.layout
obj
@ali>> firefox
[GFX1-]: glxtest: libEGL missing eglGetDisplayDr
verName
[GFX1-]: glxtest: libEGL missing eglGetDisplayDr
verName

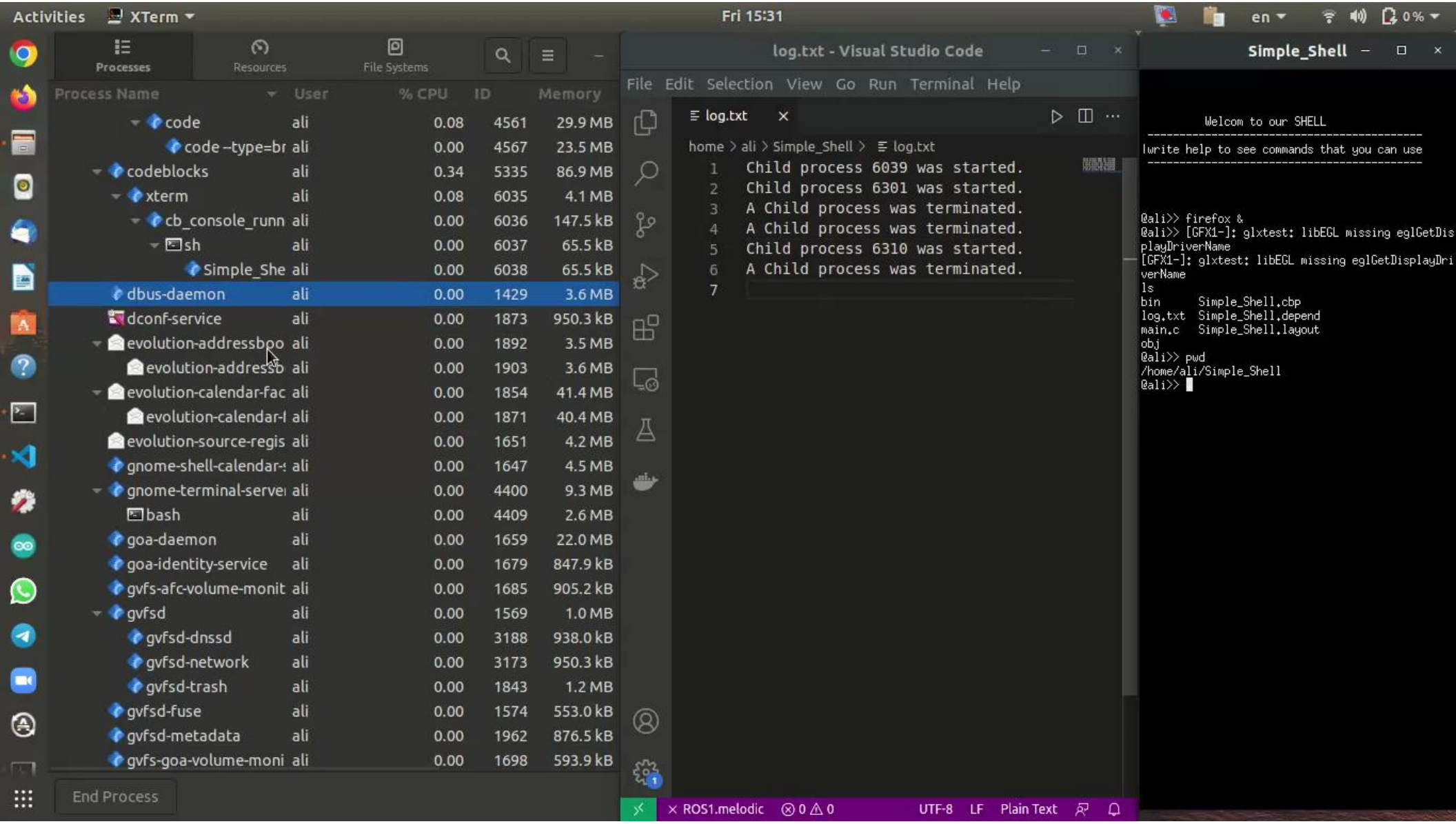
>>> firefox


Activities
XTerm
Fri 14:15
en
0%
Processes
Resources
File Systems
Process Name
User
% CPU
ID
Memory
code
code --type=br ali 0.00 13194 23.5 MB
codeblocks ali 0.33 7138 88.6 MB
xterm ali 0.00 14412 4.1 MB
cb_console_runn ali 0.00 14413 147.5 kB
sh ali 0.00 14414 69.6 kB
Simple_She ali 0.00 14415 86.0 kB
firefox ali 0.25 14795 121.4 MB
Privile ali 0.08 14890 25.1 MB
Socket ali 0.00 14852 7.5 MB
Web C ali 0.00 14984 10.6 MB
Web C ali 0.00 14985 10.6 MB
Web C ali 0.00 15023 10.6 MB
WebE: ali 0.17 14932 26.5 MB
dbus-daemon ali 0.00 1477 2.7 MB
dconf-service ali 0.00 1937 950.3 kB
evolution-addressboo ali 0.00 1963 3.5 MB
evolution-addressb ali 0.00 1973 3.6 MB
evolution-calendar-fac ali 0.00 1929 41.4 MB
evolution-calendar-l ali 0.00 1944 40.5 MB
evolution-source-regis ali 0.00 1698 4.0 MB
gnome-shell-calendar-: ali 0.00 1694 4.5 MB
goa-daemon ali 0.00 1706 22.1 MB
goa-identity-service ali 0.00 1720 843.8 kB
gvfs-afc-volume-monit ali 0.00 1731 901.1 kB
gvfsd ali 0.00 1636 1.0 MB
gvfsd-dnssd ali 0.00 3019 950.3 kB
End Process
log.txt - Visual Studio Code
File Edit Selection View Go Run Terminal Help
log.txt
home > ali > Simple_Shell > log.txt
1 Child process 14454 was started.
2 A Child process was terminated.
3 Child process 14475 was started.
4 A Child process was terminated.
5 Child process 14493 was started.
6 A Child process was terminated.
7 Child process 14494 was started.
8 A Child process was terminated.
9 Child process 14514 was started.
10 A Child process was terminated.
11 Child process 14515 was started.
12 A Child process was terminated.
13 Child process 14516 was started.
14 A Child process was terminated.
15 Child process 14795 was started.
16 Child process 15063 was started.
17 A Child process was terminated.
18 Child process 15067 was started.
19 A Child process was terminated.
20
ROS1.melodic
UTF-8
LF
Plain Text
Simple_Shell
@ali>> pwd
/home/ali/Simple_Shell
@ali>> ls
bin Simple_Shell.cbp
log.txt Simple_Shell.depend
main.c Simple_Shell.layout
obj
@ali>> touch new_file.txt
@ali>> ls
bin new_file.txt Simple_Shell.depend
log.txt obj Simple_Shell.layout
main.c Simple_Shell.cbp
@ali>> rm new_file.txt
@ali>> ls
bin Simple_Shell.cbp
log.txt Simple_Shell.depend
main.c Simple_Shell.layout
obj
@ali>> firefox
[GFX1-]: glxtest: libEGL missing eglGetDisplayDr
verName
[GFX1-]: glxtest: libEGL missing eglGetDisplayDr
verName
###!!! [Parent][PImageBridgeParent] Error: RunMe
ssage(msgname=PImageBridge::Msg_WillClose) Channe
closing: too late to send/recv, messages will b
lost
@ali>> firefox &
@ali>> [GFX1-]: glxtest: libEGL missing eglGetDi
playDriverName
[GFX1-]: glxtest: libEGL missing eglGetDisplayDr
verName
ls
bin Simple_Shell.cbp
log.txt Simple_Shell.depend
main.c Simple_Shell.layout
obj
@ali>> ls -l
total 32
drwxr-xr-x 3 ali ali 4096 May 6 13:31 bin
-rw-rw-r-- 1 ali ali 586 May 6 14:15 log.txt
-rw-r--r-- 1 ali ali 5349 May 6 13:32 main.c
drwxr-xr-x 3 ali ali 4096 May 6 13:31 obj
-rw-rw-r-- 1 ali ali 1075 May 6 13:31 Simple_Sh
ll.cbp
-rw-rw-r-- 1 ali ali 179 May 6 13:34 Simple_Sh
ll.depend
-rw-rw-r-- 1 ali ali 359 May 6 13:34 Simple_Sh
ll.layout
@ali>>

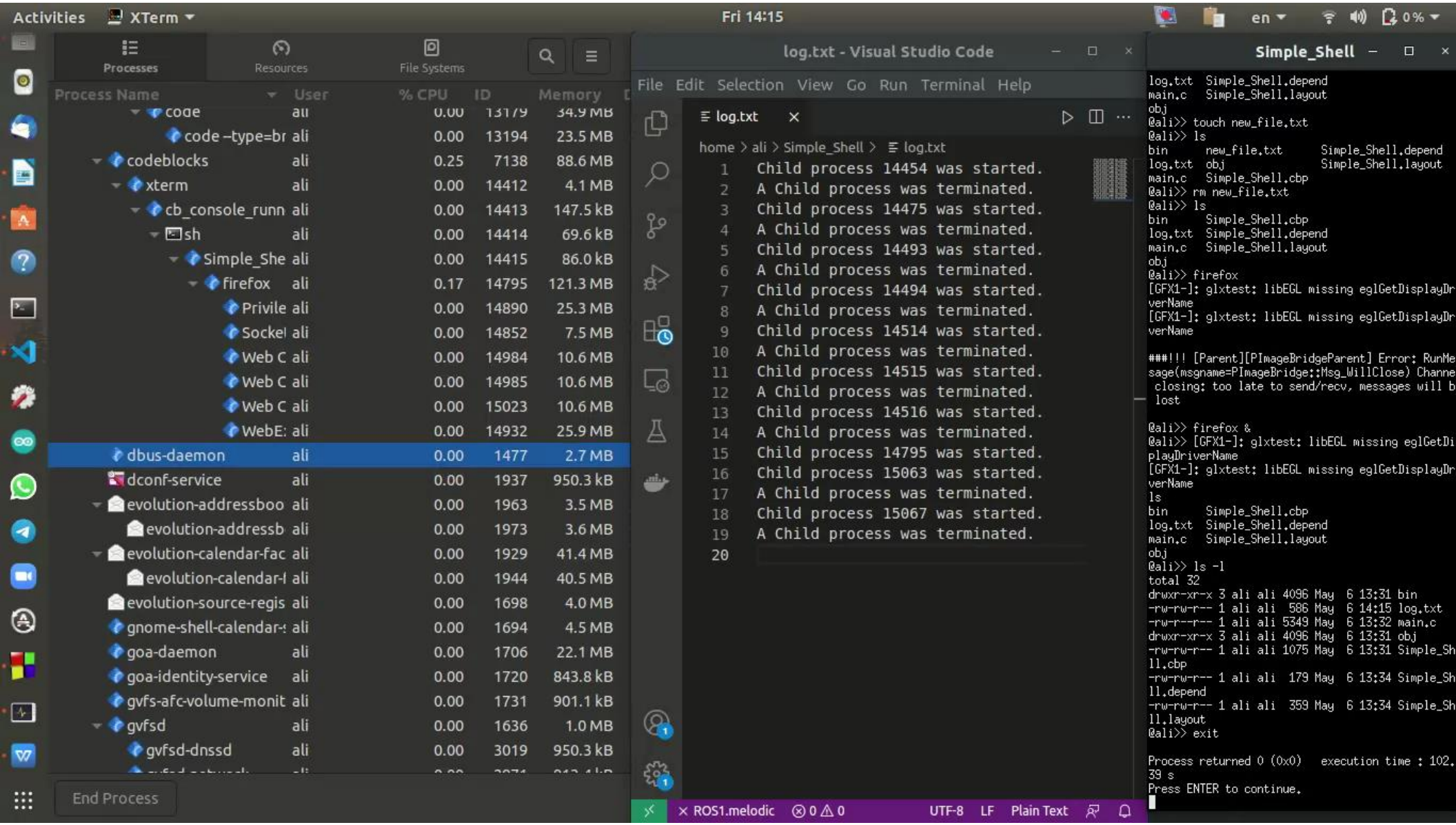
>>>ls -l



Firefox was closed but still zombie processes



Zombie processes fully terminated after executing any command, i.e, >>>pwd


Activities
XTerm
Fri 14:15
en
0%
Processes
Resources
File Systems
Process Name
User
% CPU
ID
Memory
code
code --type=br ali 0.00 13194 23.5 MB
codeblocks ali 0.25 7138 88.6 MB
xterm ali 0.00 14412 4.1 MB
cb_console_runn ali 0.00 14413 147.5 kB
sh ali 0.00 14414 69.6 kB
Simple_She ali 0.00 14415 86.0 kB
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WebE: ali 0.00 14932 25.9 MB
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dconf-service ali 0.00 1937 950.3 kB
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evolution-addressb ali 0.00 1973 3.6 MB
evolution-calendar-fac ali 0.00 1929 41.4 MB
evolution-calendar-l ali 0.00 1944 40.5 MB
evolution-source-regis ali 0.00 1698 4.0 MB
gnome-shell-calendar-s ali 0.00 1694 4.5 MB
goa-daemon ali 0.00 1706 22.1 MB
goa-identity-service ali 0.00 1720 843.8 kB
gvfs-afc-volume-monit ali 0.00 1731 901.1 kB
gvfsd ali 0.00 1636 1.0 MB
gvfsd-dnssd ali 0.00 3019 950.3 kB
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File Edit Selection View Go Run Terminal Help
log.txt
home > ali > Simple_Shell > log.txt
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9 Child process 14514 was started.
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13 Child process 14516 was started.
14 A Child process was terminated.
15 Child process 14795 was started.
16 Child process 15063 was started.
17 A Child process was terminated.
18 Child process 15067 was started.
19 A Child process was terminated.
20
ROS1.melodic
0 0
UTF-8 LF Plain Text
Simple_Shell
log.txt Simple_Shell.depend
main.c Simple_Shell.layout
obj
@ali>> touch new_file.txt
@ali>> ls
bin new_file.txt Simple_Shell.depend
log.txt obj Simple_Shell.layout
main.c Simple_Shell.cbp
@ali>> rm new_file.txt
@ali>> ls
bin Simple_Shell.cbp
log.txt Simple_Shell.depend
main.c Simple_Shell.layout
obj
@ali>> firefox
[GFX1-]: glxtest: libEGL missing eglGetDisplayDr
verName
[GFX1-]: glxtest: libEGL missing eglGetDisplayDr
verName
###!!! [Parent][PImageBridgeParent] Error: RunMe
sage(msgname=PImageBridge::Msg_WillClose) Channe
closing: too late to send/recv, messages will b
lost
@ali>> firefox &
@ali>> [GFX1-]: glxtest: libEGL missing eglGetDi
playDriverName
[GFX1-]: glxtest: libEGL missing eglGetDisplayDr
verName
ls
bin Simple_Shell.cbp
log.txt Simple_Shell.depend
main.c Simple_Shell.layout
obj
@ali>> ls -l
total 32
drwxr-xr-x 3 ali ali 4096 May 6 13:31 bin
-rw-rw-r-- 1 ali ali 586 May 6 14:15 log.txt
-rw-r--r-- 1 ali ali 5349 May 6 13:32 main.c
drwxr-xr-x 3 ali ali 4096 May 6 13:31 obj
-rw-rw-r-- 1 ali ali 1075 May 6 13:31 Simple_Sh
ll.cbp
-rw-rw-r-- 1 ali ali 179 May 6 13:34 Simple_Sh
ll.depend
-rw-rw-r-- 1 ali ali 359 May 6 13:34 Simple_Sh
ll.layout
@ali>> exit
Process returned 0 (0x0) execution time : 102.
39 s
Press ENTER to continue.

>>> exit