

Assignment 1

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https://github.com/Elonian/C_and_DataStructures/tree/main/Assignment_1

1 PROBLEM

(Q 17) The following C program is executed on a Unix/Linux system

```
#include <unistd.h>
int main(){
    int i;
    for(i = 0; i < 10; i++){
        if(i%2 == 0){
            fork();
        }
    }
}
```

The total number of child processes created are.

2 SOLUTION

Answer: Number of child process created are $2^n - 1 = 2^5 - 1 = 31$. Where n is the number of times `fork()` call occurred.

Explanation:

- **fork()** is used for process creation on Unix-like operating systems. It won't take any arguments and returns process ID.
- The purpose of `fork()` is to create a new process, which becomes the child process of the caller (Parent process).
- After a new child process is created, both processes will execute the next instruction following the `fork()` system call.

In the **for** loop **if** condition is satisfied only for even values of i ;

First `fork` method is called at $i = 0$ and child process is created with variable $i = 0$ in child process ($c1$). In level 1 one child process ($c1$) and parent process (p) is running.

In parent process (p) when $i = 2$, it calls `fork` method then a new child process ($c2$) is created with variable $i = 2$.

similarly for the child process ($c1$) at $i = 2$ another child process ($c3$) is created.

At each level in row all the child processes along with parent process running at given instant are present.

In the Level 2 total number of child process = $3 = 2^L - 1$.

where L is the highest level of tree or number of times `fork()` call occurred.

This process creation continues till level 5 because variable i takes even values.

Number of child process at level 5 = $2^5 - 1 = 31$.

Graphically it is depicted as below.

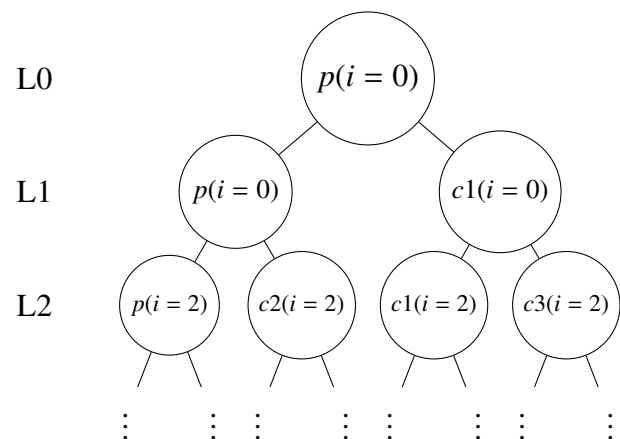


Fig. 0: Tree representation