

Programovanie v operačných systémoch

06 - Processes, threads

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Process

Thread

Inter-process communication

- ▶ instance of a program
 - ▶ processor state, context (registers,...)
 - ▶ virtual memory
 - ▶ resources (file desc. , security info (user, group, capabilities))
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- ▶ `fork()` (+ `exec(...)`) `CreateProcess`
 - ▶ `exit()`
 - ▶ `waitpid()`

- ▶ lightweight
- ▶ processor state, context (registers,...)
- ▶ shared virtual memory, resources

- ▶ `pthread_create()` (`clone(...)`)
- ▶ `pthread_exit()`
- ▶ `pthread_join()`

Example

```
void *task_hello(void *data)
{
    printf("Hello world, data: %p\n", data);
    pthread_exit(NULL);
}

int main (int argc, char *argv[])
{
    pthread_t threads[NUM_THREADS];
    int ret, i;
    for (i = 0; i < NUM_THREADS; ++i) {
        printf("main: pthread_create %d\n", i);
        if ((ret = pthread_create(&threads[i], NULL, task_hello, NULL))) {
            printf("pthread_create: error: %d\n", ret);
            exit(EXIT_FAILURE);
        }
    }

    for (i = 0; i < NUM_THREADS; ++i) {
        void *retval = NULL;
        if ((ret = pthread_join(threads[i], &retval) != 0)) {
            printf("pthread_join: error %d\n", ret);
        } else {
            printf("thread %d finished with return value %p\n", i, retval);
        }
    }
    pthread_exit(NULL);
}
```

Comparison

	process	thread
create	fork()	pthread_create()
exit	exit(int status)	pthread_exit(void *retval)
wait	waitpid()	pthread_join()
identification	unique PID	shared PID unique TID
stack		unique
signals		shared*
memory		
file descriptors	unique ¹	shared
mutexes		
...		

¹copied on exec

Inter-process communication (IPC)

- ▶ signals man 7 signal
 - ▶ no data, hard to use
- ▶ shared memory man 7 shm_overview
 - ▶ only data, no events / change notification
 - ▶ needs synchronization
- ▶ (POSIX | System-V) message queues man 7 mq_overview
- ▶ pipes / FIFOs man 7 pipe
 - ▶ one-to-one, unidirectional
- ▶ sockets (local, network) man 7 socket
 - ▶ one-to-many or many-to-many

- ▶ Sending

```
int kill(pid_t pid, int sig)
```

- ▶ Receiving

```
void handler1(int sig);  
void handler2(int sig, siginfo_t *siginfo, void *context);  
void sigaction(int signum, const struct sigaction *new,  
               struct sigaction *old);
```

- ▶ Blocking

```
int sigprocmask(int how, const sigset_t *set, sigset_t *oldset);  
int pthread_sigmask(...);
```

- ▶ Default action for some signals is to terminate the receiving process!

man 7 signal

Shared memory

```
int open(const char *pathname, int flags, mode_t mode);
int shm_open(const char *name, int oflag, mode_t mode);
int shm_unlink(const char *name);

void *mmap(void *addr, size_t length, int prot, int flags,
           int fd, off_t offset);
int munmap(void *addr, size_t length);
```

- ▶ use `shm_open` to open an existing or create a new shared memory object identified by name
- ▶ use `mmap` to map it into process memory space
- ▶ alternatively use `mmap` on regular files opened by `open` to get "persistent" filesystem backed shared memory

man 7 shm_overview