

School of Electronic Engineering and Computer Science

ECS501U - C Programming Laboratory Session Week_10

Learning Objectives

To produce examples of fork() usage
To produce examples of fork() + exec() usage
To produce examples of signal handling

Exercises

You should attempt the exercises below by using <u>only</u> the C constructs that you learnt up to teaching week 10, and:

- 1. Write pseudo code to describe the required algorithm to solve the exercise (or draw up a flowchart), <u>before</u> writing and testing the actual code.
- 2. Add comments to your code.
- 3. Make your code neat, by using indentation and parenthesis (where appropriate).
- 4. Give meaningful names to functions and variables.

Exercise 1

In Exercise 4 of Lab Week 9 you wrote a program that performs a fork() and then invokes the *runChild* function (given in Figure 1) in the child process, and five seconds later, the parent prints a message saying, "I'm still here!" and the process id of both parent and child processes. You used the *sleep* library function to put the process to sleep for five seconds. Now, you will make the parent process wait for the child to terminate and print the exit status of the child.

```
void runChild(void)
{
   printf("\n I am the child! My pid is %d\n",getpid());
}
```

Figure 1

Exercise 2

Reuse the code you wrote for Exercise 1, and change the *runChild* method so that the child process execute the "Is -aF/" command using execlp() function.

Exercise 3

The function given in Figure 2 tests whether a word is a *Palindrome*. Examples of palindromes are: *did, mum, level,* etc. Write a program that tests the user capabilities to find palindromes. The program should ask the user to enter a palindrome of 3 letters first, if the user gives the correct answer in 20 seconds the program continues by asking the user to enter a palindrome of 4 letters

Page 1 of 2

in 30 seconds and so on (5 letters in 40 seconds, 6 letters in 50 seconds, etc.). If the user gives an incorrect answer or the waiting time expires (displaying "TIME IS UP!!!"), the program terminates and displays the final score (how many correct answers in total). If the user presses *Ctrl C* the program also terminates and displays the final score. The program must make use of signals. **Hint:** See the example given in class for signals using alarms.

```
#include<stdio.h>
#include<string.h>
void testPalindrome(int len)
     char s[len];
     int i,j;
     printf("Enter a word of length %d:\n",len);
     fflush(stdin);
     gets(s);
     for (i=0, j=len-1; i < j; i++, j--)
           if (s[i]!=s[j]){
            printf("\nNot a Palindrome\n");
           raise(SIGINT);
           break;
     }
     else
           printf("\nPalindrome\n");
      }
```

Figure 2

ECS501U – END of LAB Week_10

Page 2 of 2