SSN College of Engineering, Kalavakkam

Department of Computer Science and Engineering

V Semester - CSE 'A'

UCS1511 NETWORK LAB

EXERCISE-2 : Study of System Calls

**Aim:**

To learn and understand the use of system calls used in computer networks.

1. **Socket()  
   Name of System Call: socket**

i. Description: used to create an endpoint for communication

ii. Header files: sys/socket.h

iii. Syntax: socket(args)

1. Parameters: int domain, int protocol

iv. Explanation of parameters:

1. Domain: used to specify the communication domain

2. Protocol: this is automatically selected by the domain parameter

v. Return value: returns a descriptor

vi. Structures used if any: None

**2. Bind()**

**Name of System Call: Bind**

i. Description: used to bind a name/address as specified to the socket

ii. Header files: sys/socket.h

iii. Syntax: bind(args)

1. Parameters: int sockfd, struct sockaddr \*addr, socklen\_t addrlen

iv. Explanation of parameters:

1. Sockfd: this is the file descriptor of the socket

2. Addr: this is the address to be binded for the socket

3. Addrlen: the size of the struct addr

v. Return value: 0 on success, -1 on error.

vi. Structures used if any: struct sockaddr

**3. Listen()**

**Name of System Call: listen**

i. Description: used to listen for connections on a socket

ii. Header files: sys/socket.h

iii. Syntax:

1. Parameters: int sockfd, int backlog

iv. Explanation of parameters:

1. Sockfd: this is the file descriptor of the socket

2. Backlog: The backlog argument defines the maximum length to

which the queue of pending connections for sockfd may grow.

v. Return value: 0 on success, -1 on failure

vi. Structures used if any: None

**4. Connect()**

**Name of System Call: connect**

i. Description: used to initiate a connection on a socket referred by the file

descriptor of the socket

ii. Header files: sys/socket.h

iii. Syntax:

1. Parameters: int sockfd, struct sockaddr \*addr, socklen\_t addrlen

iv. Explanation of parameters:

1. Sockfd: file descriptor of the socket

2. Addr: this is the address which is binded to the socket

3. Addrlen: the size of the struct addr

v. Return value: 0 if success, -1 if failure

vi. Structures used if any: struct sockaddr

**5. Accept()**

**Name of System Call: accept**

i. Description: accepts a connection on a socket, and extracts the first

connection request on the queue of pending connections for the listening

socket, sockfd, creates a new connected socket, and returns a new file

descriptor referring to that socket.

ii. Header files: sys/socket.h

iii. Syntax: accept(args)

1. Parameters: int sockfd, struct sockaddr \*restrict addr, socklen

\*restrict addrelen

iv. Explanation of parameters:

1. Sockfd: file descriptor of the socket

2. Addr: this is the address which is binded to the socket

3. Addrlen: the size of the struct addr

v. Return value: returns the file descriptor of the accepted socket, -1 on

failure.

vi. Structures used if any: struct sockaddr

**6. Close()**

**Name of System Call: close**

i. Description: used to shut down the socket

ii. Header files: unistd.h

iii. Syntax: close(args)

1. Parameters: int socket

iv. Explanation of parameters:

1. Socket: file descriptor of the sockets

v. Return value: 0 if success, -1 if failure.

vi. Structures used if any: None

**7. Bzero()**

**Name of System Call: bzero**

i. Description: The bzero() function erases the data in the n bytes of the

memory starting at the location pointed to by s, by writing zeros (bytes

containing '\0') to that area.

ii. Header files: strings.h

iii. Syntax: bzero(args)

1. Parameters: void \*s, size\_t n

iv. Explanation of parameters:

1. s: location of the string

2. n: size of the string in bytes

v. Return value: void

vi. Structures used if any: None

**8. htons, htonl, ntohs, ntohl()**

**Name of System Call: htons, htonl, ntohs, ntohl**

i. Description: These functions shall convert 16-bit and 32-bit quantities

between network byte order and host byte order.

ii. Header files: arpa/inet.h

iii. Syntax: uint32\_t htonl(uint32\_t hostlong); uint16\_t htons(uint16\_t

hostshort); uint32\_t ntohl(uint32\_t netlong); uint16\_t ntohs(uint16\_t

netshort);

1. Parameters: uint32\_t, uint16\_t

iv. Explanation of parameters:

1. Any integer that needs to be converted.

v. Return value: the converted integer

vi. Structures used if any: None

**9. Read()**

**Name of System Call: read**

i. Description: used to read n bytes from the socket to the buffer specified.

ii. Header files: unistd.h

iii. Syntax: read(args)

1. Parameters: int fd, void \*buf, size\_t count

iv. Explanation of parameters:

1. fd: file descriptor of the socket

2. buf: the buffer into which the read items are to be stored

3. count: the size to be read

v. Return value: size read from the socket

vi. Structures used if any: None

**10. Write()**

**Name of System Call: write**

i. Description: used to write n bytes to the socket to the buffer specified.

ii. Header files: unistd.h

iii. Syntax: write(args)

1. Parameters: int fd, void \*buf, size\_t count

iv. Explanation of parameters:

1. fd: file descriptor of the socket

2. buf: the buffer into which the read items are to be stored

3. count: the size to be read

v. Return value: size written to the socket

vi. Structures used if any: None

**11. Send()**

**Name of System Call: send**

i. Description: send

ii. Header files: sys/socket.h

iii. Syntax: send(args)

1. Parameters: sockfd, buf, len, flags

iv. Explanation of parameters:

1. Sockfd: file descriptor of the socket

2. Buf: the message to be sent is stored here

3. Len: length of the buffer

. Flags: flags to be used

v. Return value: returns the number of bytes sent, -1 on failure

vi. Structures used if any: None

**12. Receive()**

**Name of System Call: receive**

i. Description: Used to receive a message from the socket

ii. Header files: sys/socket.h

iii. Syntax:

1. Parameters: sockfd, buf, len, flags

iv. Explanation of parameters:

1. Sockfd: file descriptor of the socket

2. Buf: the message to be sent is stored here

3. Len: length of the buffer

4. Flags: flags to be used

v. Return value: Returns the number of bytes received, or -1 if an error

occured

vi. Structures used if any: None

**13. Sendto()**

**Name of System Call: Sendto**

i. Description: The send() call is used only when the socket is in connected

state.

ii. Header files: sys/socket.h

iii. Syntax:

1. Parameters: sockfd, buf, len, flags

iv. Explanation of parameters:

1. Sockfd: file descriptor of the socket

2. Buf: the message to be sent is stored here

3. Len: length of the buffer

4. Flags: flags to be used

v. Return value: On success returns the number of bytes sent, else will

return -1

vi. Structures used if any: None

**14. Receivefrom()**

**Name of System Call: Recievefrom**

i. Description: used to receive messages from a socket, and may be used

to receive data on a socket whether or not it is connection-oriented.

ii. Header files: sys/socket.h and sys/types.h

iii. Syntax:

1. Parameters: sockfd, buf, len, flags

iv. Explanation of parameters:

1. Sockfd: file descriptor of the socket

2. Buf: the message to be sent is stored here

3. Len: length of the buffer

4. Flags: flags to be used

v. Return value: Returns number of bytes received or will simply return -1 if

an error occurs

vi. Structures used if any: None

**15. Select()**

**Name of System Call: Select**

i. Description: Select command allows to monitor multiple file descriptors,

waiting until one of the file descriptors become active.

ii. Header files: sys/select.h

iii. Syntax:

1. Parameters: nfds, readfds, writefds, exceptfds

iv. Explanation of parameters:

1. Nfds: Used to set the highest numbered file descriptor

In any of the three sets, plus 1

2. Readfds: Used to check if the ready for reading

3. Writedfs: The file descriptors in this set are watched to see if they

are ready for writing

4. Exceptfds: The file descriptors in this set are watched for

exceptional conditions

v. Return value: Returns the number of file descriptors contained in the

three returned descriptors sets. On error returns -1

vi. Structures used if any: None

**16. Setsockopt()**

**Name of System Call: setsockopt**

i. Description: This is used to manipulate the options associated with a

socket

ii. Header files: sys/types.h and sys/socket.h

iii. Syntax:

1. Parameters: socket, level, optname, optval, optlen

iv. Explanation of parameters:

1. Socket: stores the filedescriptor

2. Level: specifies the protocol level at which the option resides

3. Optname: specifies the a single option to set

4. Optval: stores the value argument for the socket

5. Optlen: defines length

v. Return value: Upon successful completion it will return 0, else -1 will be

returned and errno set to indicate the error

vi. Structures used if any: None

**17. Fcntl()**

**Name of System Call: Fcntl**

i. Description: Used to perform file descriptor manipulations

ii. Header files: fcntl.h

iii. Syntax:

1. Parameters: fd, cmd

iv. Explanation of parameters:

1. Fd: holds the value for file descriptor

2. Cmd: Decides the functionality of the entire function

v. Return value: Will depend on the cmd passed during the beginning,

Other wise -1 will be returned in case of any error

vi. Structures used if any: None

**18. getpeername()**

**Name of System Call: getpeername**

i. Description: Is used to return the address of the peer connected to the

socket sockfd, in the buffer pointed to by addr

ii. Header files: sys/socket.h

iii. Syntax:

1. Parameters: sockfd, addr, addrlen

iv. Explanation of parameters:

1. Sockfd: Holds the socket number who’s address is to be returned

2. Addr: refers to the amount of space

3. Addrlen: Initialized to indicate the amount of space pointed to by

addr

v. Return value: On success, zero is returned. On error, -1 is returned and

errno is set to the indicate the error

vi. Structures used if any: None

**19. gethostname()**

**Name of System Call: gethostname**

i. Description: These are used to access the system hostname

ii. Header files: unistd.h

iii. Syntax:

1. Parameters: name, len

iv. Explanation of parameters:

1. Name: Used to pass the hostname

2. Len: specifies the length of the byte

v. Return value: On success zero is returned. On error -1 is returned

vi. Structures used if any: None

**20. gethostbyname()**

**Name of System Call: gethostbyname**

i. Description: It is used to return a structure of type hostent for the given

host name

ii. Header files: netbd.h

iii. Syntax:

1. Parameters: name

iv. Explanation of parameters:

1. Name: It is used to specify the name of host or Itv4 address

v. Return value: Returns the hostent structure or a numm pointer if an error

occurs

vi. Structures used if any: hostent

**21. gethostbyaddr()**

**Name of System Call: gethostbyaddr**

i. Description: Returns a structure of type hostent for the given host address

addr of length len and address type type

ii. Header files: netdb.h

iii. Syntax:

1. Parameters: addr, len, type

iv. Explanation of parameters:

1. Addr: specifies the address we are looking for

2. Len: length of the address

3. Type: type of the address

v. Return value: Returns the required structure with the given address, else

return NULL if not found

vi. Structures used if any: hostent

Result:

Learned about the use of system calls used in computer networks

Learning outcome:

Learnt the various network related commands

Learnt the various options associated with the network related commands

Learnt and implemented the network commands on the terminal.