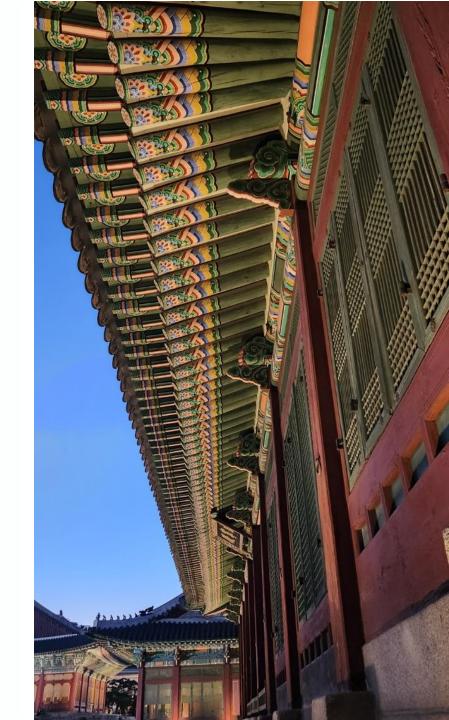
# Signal & Time

HGU



#### Contents

- Shell Program
- Signal
- Time

## Shell Programs

- A shell is an application program that runs programs on behalf of the user.
  - sh: Original Unix Bourne Shell
  - csh: BSD Unix C Shell
  - tcsh: Enhanced C Shell
  - bash: Bourne-Again Shell

## Simple Shell: main() & eval()

shellex.c

```
#define MAXLINE 8192 /* Max text line length */
#define MAXARGS 128
/* Function prototypes */
void eval(char *cmdline);
int parseline(char *buf, char **argv);
int builtin command(char **argv);
extern char **environ; /* Defined by libc */
int main()
    char cmdline[MAXLINE];
    while (1) {
          /* read */
           printf("> ");
          fgets(cmdline, MAXLINE, stdin);
           if (feof(stdin))
               exit(0);
          /* evaluate */
           eval(cmdline);
```

Execution is a sequence of read/evaluate steps

```
/* eval */
void eval(char *cmdline)
    char *argv[MAXARGS]; /* Argument list execve() */
    char buf[MAXLINE]; /* Holds modified command line */
   int bg; /* Should the job run in bg or fg? */
   pid t pid; /* Process id */
   strcpy(buf, cmdline);
   bg = parseline(buf, argv);
   if (argv[0] == NULL)
       return;
   if (!builtin command(argv)) {
       if ((pid = fork()) == 0) {
           if (execve(argv[0], argv, environ) < 0) {</pre>
               printf("%s: Command not found.\n", argv[0]);
               exit(0);
       if (!bg) {
           int status;
           if (waitpid(pid, &status, 0) < 0)</pre>
               perror("waitfg: waitpid error");
       else
           printf("%d %s", pid, cmdline);
    return;
```

## Simple Shell: builtin\_command() & parseline()

shellex.c

```
/* builtin - */
int builtin_command(char **argv)
{
    if (!strcmp(argv[0], "quit"))
        exit(0);
    if (!strcmp(argv[0], "&"))
        return 1;
    return 0;
}
```

Expected results?

```
/* parseline - ? */
int parseline(char *buf, char **argv)
    char *delim; /* Points to first space delimiter */
   int argc;  /* Number of args */
int bg;  /* Background job? */
    buf[strlen(buf)-1] = ' ';
    while (*buf && (*buf == ' '))
    buf++;
    argc = 0;
    while ((delim = strchr(buf, ' '))) {
        argv[argc++] = buf;
        *delim = '\0';
        buf = delim + 1;
        while (*buf && (*buf == ' '))
            buf++;
    argv[argc] = NULL;
    if (argc == 0)
        return 1;
    if ((bg = (*argv[argc-1] == '&')) != 0)
        argv[--argc] = NULL;
    return bg;
```

#### Contents

- Shell Program
- Signal
- Time

## Problem with Simple Shell Example

- Shell correctly waits for and reaps foreground jobs.
- But what about background jobs?
  - Will become zombies when they terminate.
  - Will never be reaped because shell (typically) will not terminate.
  - Creates a memory leak that will eventually crash the kernel when it runs out of memory.
- Solution: Reaping background jobs requires a mechanism called a signal.

## Signal

- A **signal** is a small message that notifies a process that an event of some type has occurred in the system.
  - Kernel abstraction for exceptions and interrupts.
  - Sent from the kernel (sometimes at the request of another process) to a process.
  - Different signals are identified by small integer ID's
  - The only information in a signal is its ID and the fact that it arrived.
  - Each signal has a current disposition (action associated with a signal), which determines how the process behaves when it is delivered the signal.

# Signal Types

ID	Name	Default Action	Corresponding Event
2	SIGINT	Terminate	Interrupt from keyboard (ctrl-c)
9	SIGKILL	Terminate	Kill program (cannot override or ignore)
11	SIGSEGV	Terminate & Dump	Segmentation violation
14	SIGALRM	Terminate	Timer signal
17	SIGCHLD	Igonre	Child stopped or terminated

```
yunmin@peace:~/ch10$ kill -l
 1) SIGHUP
                SIGINT
                                SIGQUIT
                                               4) SIGILL
                                                               5) SIGTRAP
 6) SIGABRT
                7) SIGBUS
                                8) SIGFPE
                                               9) SIGKILL
                                                              10) SIGUSR1
11) SIGSEGV
               12) SIGUSR2
                               13) SIGPIPE
                                              14) SIGALRM
                                                              15) SIGTERM
16) SIGSTKFLT 17) SIGCHLD
                               18) SIGCONT
                                              19) SIGSTOP
                                                              20) SIGTSTP
21) SIGTTIN
               22) SIGTTOU
                               23) SIGURG
                                               24) SIGXCPU
                                                              25) SIGXFSZ
26) SIGVTALRM
               27) SIGPROF
                               28) SIGWINCH
                                              29) SIGIO
                                                              30) SIGPWR
```

# Sending a Signal

- Kernel sends (delivers) a signal to a destination process by updating some state in the context of the destination process.
- Kernel sends a signal for one of the following reasons:
  - Kernel has detected a system event such as divide-by-zero (SIGFPE) or the termination of a child process (SIGCHLD)
  - Another process has invoked the kill system call to explicitly request the kernel to send a signal to the destination process.

# Receiving a Signal

- A destination process receives a signal when it is forced by the kernel to react in some way to the delivery of the signal.
- Signal disposition: Each signal has a current disposition (i.e., default action), which determines how the process behaves when it is delivered the signal
  - Terminate the process
  - Terminate the process and dump core
  - Ignore the signal
  - Stop the process
  - Continue the process if it is currently stopped
- Also a process can change the disposition of a signal
  - Process executes a user-level function called a signal handler when the specified signal occurs.

# Signal Pending and Blocked

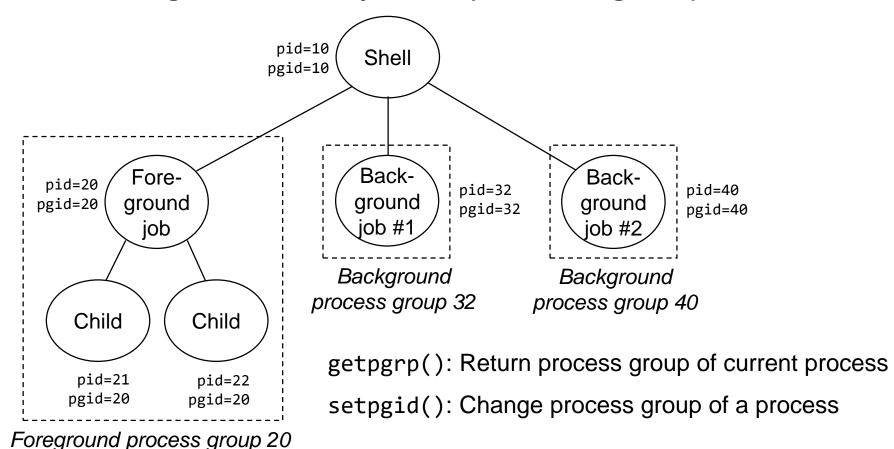
- A signal is pending if it has been sent but not yet received.
  - There can be at most one pending signal of any particular type.
  - Important: Signals are not queued
    - If a process has a pending signal of type k, then subsequent signals of type k that are sent to that process are discarded.
- A process can block the receipt of certain signals.
  - Blocked signals can be delivered, but will not be received until the signal is unblocked.
- A pending signal is received at most once.

# Signal Pending and Blocked

- Kernel maintains pending and blocked bit vectors in the context of each process.
  - Pending: represents the set of pending signals
    - Kernel sets bit k in pending whenever a signal of type k is delivered.
    - Kernel clears bit k in pending whenever a signal of type k is received
  - Blocked: represents the set of blocked signals
    - Can be set and cleared by the application using the sigprocmask function.

#### Process Groups

Every process belongs to exactly one process group



## Kill Program

kill program sends arbitrary signal to a process or process group

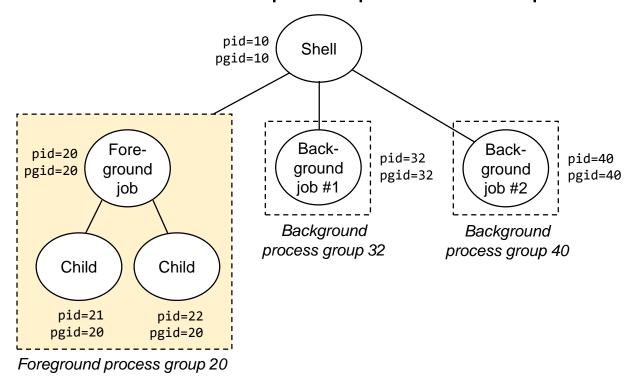
- \$ kill -9 15251
  - Send SIGKILL to process 15251
- \$ kill -9 -15545
  - Send SIGKILL to every process in process group 15545

```
yunmin@peace:~/ch10$ ./killproc1
Child1: pid=7238 pgrp=7237
Child2: pid=7239 pgrp=7237
yunmin@peace:~/ch10$ ps
  PID TTY
                  TIME CMD
 5530 pts/0
             00:00:00 bash
 7238 pts/0 00:00:05 killproc1
 7239 pts/0
             00:00:05 killproc1
             00:00:00 ps
 7242 pts/0
yunmin@peace:~/ch10$ kill -9 7238
yunmin@peace:~/ch10$ ps
 PID TTY
                  TIME CMD
 5530 pts/0
              00:00:00 bash
 7239 pts/0
              00:00:14 killproc1
              00:00:00 ps
 7280 pts/0
yunmin@peace:~/ch10$ kill -9 7239
yunmin@peace:~/ch10$ ps
  PID TTY
                  TIME CMD
 5530 pts/0
              00:00:00 bash
 7321 pts/0
              00:00:00 ps
```

```
yunmin@peace:~/ch10$ ./killproc1
Child1: pid=7380 pgrp=7379
Child2: pid=7381 pgrp=7379
yunmin@peace:~/ch10$ ps
  PID TTY
                  TIME CMD
 5530 pts/0
              00:00:00 bash
 7380 pts/0
              00:00:02 killproc1
 7381 pts/0
              00:00:02 killproc1
 7396 pts/0
              00:00:00 ps
yunmin@peace:~/ch10$ kill -9 -7379
yunmin@peace:~/ch10$ ps
  PID TTY
                   TIME CMD
 5530 pts/0
              00:00:00 bash
 7446 pts/0
              00:00:00 ps
```

# Signals from Keyboard

- Typing ctrl-c (ctrl-z) sends a SIGTERM (SIGTSTP) to every job in the foreground process group.
  - SIGTERM: default action is to terminate each process
  - SIGTSTP: default action is to stop (suspend) each process



# Signals from Keyboard: Example

• Example of ctrl-c and ctrl-z

- fg: By default, this brings the last background job to the foreground.
- fg %job\_number: Brings a specific job (by job number) to the foreground.

```
yunmin@peace:~/ch10$ ./killproc2
Parent: pid=7604 pgrp=7604
Child: pid=7605 pgrp=7604
                             ./killproc2
[1]+ Stopped
yunmin@peace:~/ch10$ ps a
  PID TTY
              STAT TIME COMMAND
 2239 tty1
              Ss+
                     0:00 /sbin/agetty --noclear tty1 linux
 3632 tty2
              S<sl+ 0:00 /usr/lib/xorg/Xorg :0 -br -once -cor
                     0:00 /bin/bash --init-file /home/yunmin/.
 5530 pts/0
 7604 pts/0
                     0:02 ./killproc2
 7605 pts/0
                     0:02 ./killproc2
 7650 pts/0
              R+
                     0:00 ps a
yunmin@peace:~/ch10$ fg
./killproc2
yunmin@peace:~/ch10$ ps a
                     TIME COMMAND
  PID TTY
              STAT
 2239 tty1
                     0:00 /sbin/agetty --noclear tty1 linux
              Ss+
 3632 tty2
              S<sl+ 0:00 /usr/lib/xorg/Xorg :0 -br -once -cor
 5530 pts/0
              Ss
                     0:00 /bin/bash --init-file /home/yunmin/.v
 7721 pts/0
              R+
                     0:00 ps a
```

#### kill()

• kill(): Send signal to a process

```
#include <signal.h>
int kill(pid_t pid, int sig);
```

- The kill() system call can be used to send any signal to any process group or process.
- pid>0: sig is sent to the process with specified by pid
- pid=0: sig is sent to every process in the process group of the calling process
- pid=-1: sig is sent to every process for which the calling process has permission to send signals, except for process 1 (init)
- pid<-1: sig is sent to every process in the process group whose ID is -pid.
- Return value
  - Success: zero is returned
  - Error: -1 is returned

## kill(): Example

```
void main()
                                                           killproc3.c
    pid t pid[N];
    int i, child status;
    for (i = 0; i < N; i++)
         if ((pid[i] = fork()) == 0)
             while(1); /* Child infinite loop */
    /* Parent terminates the child processes */
    for (i = 0; i < N; i++) {
         printf("Killing process %d\n", pid[i]);
         // TODO
    /* Parent reaps terminated children */
    for (i = 0; i < N; i++) {
         pid t wpid = // TODO
         if ( // TODO
             printf("Child %d terminated with exit status %d\n",
                     wpid, WEXITSTATUS(child status));
         else
             printf("Child %d terminated abnormally\n", wpid);
```

```
yunmin@peace:~/ch10$ ./killproc3
Killing process 8114
Killing process 8115
Killing process 8116
Killing process 8117
Killing process 8118
Child 8114 terminated abnormally
Child 8115 terminated abnormally
Child 8116 terminated abnormally
Child 8117 terminated abnormally
Child 8118 terminated abnormally
```

## Receiving Signals

- Suppose kernel is returning from exception handler and is ready to pass control to process p.
- Kernel computes pnb = pending & ~blocked
  - The set of pending nonblocked signals for process p

```
If (pnb == 0)
    Pass control to next instruction in the logical flow for p.
Else
    Choose least nonzero bit k in pnb and force process p to receive signal k.
    The receipt of the signal triggers some action by p
    Repeat for all nonzero k in pnb.
    Pass control to next instruction in logical flow for p.
```

#### signal()

• signal(): Define the action associated with a signal

```
#include <signal.h>
typedef void (*sighandler_t)(int);
sighandler_t signal(int signum, sighandler_t handler);
```

- Sets the disposition of the signal signum to handler
- signum: the name of signal
- handler: could be one among three possible reaction to the signal signum
  - SIG\_IGN: ignore the signals
  - SIG\_DFL: use default action
  - Address of signal handler: use a programmer-defined function
    - → Installing the handler

- Return value
  - Success: the previous value of the signal handler
  - Error: SIG\_ERR

## signal(): Example

```
// SIGINT handler
                                                         signal1.c
void int handler(int sig)
    printf("Process %d received signal %d\n",
            getpid(), sig);
    exit(0);
void main()
    pid t pid[N];
    int i;
    int child status;
    signal(SIGINT, int handler);
    for (i = 0; i < N; i++) {
        if ((pid[i] = fork()) == 0)
            while(1); /* Child: Infinite Loop */
    for (i = 0; i < N; i++) {
        printf("Killing process %d\n", pid[i]);
        kill(pid[i], SIGINT);
    /* Parent reaps terminated children */
```

```
yunmin@peace:~/ch10$ ./signal1
Killing process 8319
Killing process 8320
Killing process 8321
Killing process 8322
Killing process 8323
Process 8319 received signal 2
Process 8320 received signal 2
Process 8321 received signal 2
Process 8323 received signal 2
Process 8322 received signal 2
Child 8319 terminated with exit status 0
Child 8320 terminated with exit status 0
Child 8321 terminated with exit status 0
Child 8322 terminated with exit status 0
Child 8323 terminated with exit status 0
```

# Signal Handler Funkiness

```
int ccount = 0;
                                                      signal2.c
// SIGCHLD handler that reaps one terminated child
void child handler(int sig)
   int child status;
    pid t pid = wait(&child status);
   ccount--;
   printf("Received signal %d from process %d\n", sig, pid);
// Signal funkiness: Pending signals are not queued
void main()
   pid_t pid[N];
   int i;
   ccount = N;
    signal(SIGCHLD, child handler);
   for (i = 0; i < N; i++)
       if ((pid[i] = fork()) == 0) {
            exit(0); /* Child: Exit */
   while (ccount > 0)
       pause(); /* Suspend until signal occurs */
```

- Pending signals are not queued
  - For each signal type, just have single bit indicating whether or not signal is pending
  - Even if multiple processes have sent this signal

# Living With Nonqueuing Signals

```
int ccount = 0;
                                                       signal3.c
// SIGCHLD handler that reaps all terminated children
void child handler2(int sig)
    int child status;
    pid_t pid;
    while ((pid = wait(&child_status)) > 0) {
        ccount--;
        printf("Received signal %d from process %d\n", sig, pid);
// Using a handler that reaps multiple children
void main()
    pid_t pid[N];
    int i;
    ccount = N;
    signal(SIGCHLD, child handler2);
    for (i = 0; i < N; i++)
        if ((pid[i] = fork()) == 0) {
            sleep(1);
            exit(0); /* Child exits */
    while (ccount > 0); /* Parent spins */
```

- Must check for all terminated jobs
  - Typically loop with wait

## Example for SIGINT

A program that reacts to externally generated events (ctrl-c)

```
#include <stdlib.h>
                                                         sigint.c
#include <stdio.h>
#include <unistd.h>
#include <signal.h>
void handler(int sig) {
    printf("You think hitting ctrl-c will stop the bomb?\n");
    sleep(2);
    printf("Well...");
    fflush(stdout);
    sleep(1);
    printf("OK\n");
    exit(0);
void main() {
    signal(SIGINT, handler); /* installs ctl-c handler */
    while(1) {
```

```
Typed ctrl-c

yupmin@peace:~/ch10$ ./sigint

^CYou think hitting ctrl-c will stop the bomb?

Well...OK
```

## **Example for SIGALRM**

A program that reacts to internally generated events

```
int beeps = 0;
                                                        sigalrm.c
/* SIGALRM handler */
void handler(int sig) {
    printf("BEEP\n");
    fflush(stdout);
    if (++beeps < 5)
        alarm(1);
    else {
        printf("BOOM!\n");
        exit(0);
void main() {
    signal(SIGALRM, handler);
    alarm(1); /* send SIGALRM in 1 second */
    while (1) {
        /* handler returns here */
```

```
yunmin@peace:~/ch10$ ./sigalrm
BEEP
BEEP
BEEP
BEEP
BEEP
BEEP
BEEP
BOOM!
```

#### sigaction()

• sigaction(): Examine and change a signal action

- Used to change the action taken by a process on receipt of a specific signal.
- signum: the name of signal
- act: the new action
- oldact: the previous actions
- Return value
  - Success: 0
  - Error: -1

struct sigaction

```
struct sigaction {
   void (*sa_handler)(int);
   void (*sa_sigaction)(int, siginfo_t *, void *);
   sigset_t sa_mask;
   int sa_flags;
   void (*sa_restorer)(void);
};
```

- sa\_handler: the address of a function to be called when the signal occurs
- sa\_mask: specifies a set of signals that will be blocked when the signal handler is called
- sa\_flags: options. Basically 0

## Example: sigaction()

```
#include <stdio.h>
#include <unistd.h>
#include <signal.h>

// Signal handler for timeout
void timeout(int sig)
{
   if (sig == SIGALRM)
       puts("Time out!");

   // generate SIGALRM after 2 seconds
   alarm(2);
}
```

```
yunmin@peace:~/ch10$ ./sigaction
wait...
Time out!
wait...
Time out!
wait...
Time out!
```

```
int main(int argc, char *argv[])
   int i;
    struct sigaction act;
    act.sa handler = timeout;
    sigemptyset(&act.sa_mask);
    act.sa_flags = 0;
    // specify signal type and signal handler
    sigaction(SIGALRM, &act, 0);
    alarm(2);
   for (i = 0; i < 3; i++)
        puts("wait...");
        sleep(10);
    return 0;
```

#### Contents

- Shell Program
- Signal
- Time

#### **POSIX Clocks**

- POSIX clocks are standardized ways to represent and retrieve various time sources in Unix-like operating systems
- They enable consistent time measurements across processes and applications.
- They are designed to meet different timing needs, such as tracking real-world time, measuring time elapsed since system boot, or counting CPU time consumed by processes.

# Types of POSIX Clock

Туре	Description
CLOCK_REALTIME	<ul> <li>A settable system-wide clock that measures real time (wall clock time in UTC)</li> <li>Setting this clock requires appropriate privileges</li> <li>Use cases include getting the current date and time or setting timestamps for real-world events</li> </ul>
CLOCK_MONOTONIC	<ul> <li>A nonsettable system-wide clock that represents monotonic time since the system was booted</li> <li>Useful for measuring durations, such as profiling code execution or timeout calculations in programs.</li> </ul>
CLOCK_MONOTONIC_RAW	<ul> <li>Similar to CLOCK_MONOTONIC, but provides access to a raw hardware-based time</li> <li>Useful in high-precision timing where even small adjustments are undesirable</li> </ul>
CLOCK_PROCESS_CPUTIME_ID	<ul> <li>This is a clock that measures CPU time consumed by this process</li> <li>Suitable for tracking process resource usage or performance profiling</li> </ul>
CLOCK_THREAD_CPUTIME_ID	<ul> <li>This is a clock that measures CPU time consumed by this thread</li> <li>Useful in multi-threaded applications where tracking CPU time per thread is needed</li> </ul>

## gettimeofday()

• gettimeofday(): get time ← → settimeofday(): set time

```
#include <sys/time.h>
int settimeofday(const struct timeval *tv,
                 const struct timezone *_Nullable tz);
```

- Used for obtaining the current time by offering microsecond resolution
- The timezone structure tz is no longer used in Linux, so tz is always passed as NULL.

• tv: gives the number of seconds and microseconds

```
struct timeval {
 time t tv sec; /* seconds */
 suseconds_t tv_usec; /* microseconds */
};
```

- Return value
  - Success: zero is returned
  - Error: -1 is returned

## gettimeofday(): Example

```
#include <stdio.h>
                                                                                    gettime.c
#include <sys/time.h>
int main() {
    struct timeval start, end;
    double elapsed = 0;
    gettimeofday(&start, NULL);
    for (long i = 0; i < 10000000; i++);
    gettimeofday(&end, NULL);
    printf("Start: seconds=%ld useconds=%ld\n", (long)start.tv sec, (long)start.tv usec);
    printf("End: seconds=%ld useconds=%ld\n", (long)start.tv sec, (long)start.tv usec);
    elapsed = (end.tv sec - start.tv sec) * 1000.0;
    elapsed += (end.tv_usec - start.tv_usec) / 1000.0;
                                                                             yunmin@peace:~/ch10$ ./gettime
    printf("Elapsed: %.6f ms\n", elapsed);
                                                                             Start: seconds=1731299291 useconds=867700
                                                                             End: seconds=1731299291 useconds=867700
    return 0;
                                                                             Elapsed: 33.784000 ms
```

#### clock\_gettime()

• clock\_gettime(): get time of the specified clock ← clock\_settime()

```
#include <time.h>
int clock_gettime(clockid_t clk_id, struct timespec *tp);
```

- Retrieve the time of the specified clock clk id
- clk\_id: the identifier of the particular clock on which to act. A clock may be system-wide and hence visible for all processes, or per-process if it measures time only within a single process.

• *tp*: gives the number of seconds and nanoseconds

```
struct timespec {
  time_t tv_sec; /* seconds */
  long tv_usec; /* nanoseconds */
};
```

- Return value
  - Success: zero is returned
  - Error: -1 is returned

## clock\_gettime(): Example #1

```
#include <stdio.h>
                                                                                clkgettime1.c
#include <time.h>
int main() {
    struct timespec start, end;
    double elapsed = 0:
    clock gettime(CLOCK MONOTONIC, &start);
    for (long i = 0; i < 10000000; i++);
    clock gettime(CLOCK MONOTONIC, &end);
    printf("Start: seconds=%ld nanoseconds=%ld\n", (long)start.tv sec, start.tv nsec);
    printf("End: seconds=%ld nanoseconds=%ld\n", (long)end.tv sec, end.tv nsec);
                                                                           yunmin@peace:~/ch10$ ./gettime
    elapsed = (end.tv sec - start.tv sec) * 1000.0;
                                                                           Start: seconds=1731299474 useconds=742166
    elapsed += (end.tv_nsec - start.tv_nsec) / 1000000.0;
                                                                           End: seconds=1731299474 useconds=742166
    printf("Elapsed: %.6f ms\n", elapsed);
                                                                           Elapsed: 34.442000 ms
                                                                           yunmin@peace:~/ch10$ ./clkgettime1
    return 0;
                                                                           Start: seconds=848619 nanoseconds=900973055
                                                                           End: seconds=848619 nanoseconds=935310756
                                                                           Elapsed: 34.337701 ms
```

## clock\_gettime(): Example #2

```
#include <stdio.h>
                                                   clkgettime2.c
#include <time.h>
int main() {
    clockid t clocks[] = {
        CLOCK REALTIME,
        CLOCK MONOTONIC,
        CLOCK MONOTONIC RAW,
        CLOCK PROCESS CPUTIME ID,
        CLOCK THREAD CPUTIME ID,
    };
    int i;
    for (i = 0; i < 5; i++) {
        struct timespec ts;
        int ret:
        ret = clock_gettime(clocks[i], &ts);
        if (ret)
            perror("clock_gettime");
        else
            printf("clock=%d sec=%ld nsec=%ld\n",
                    clocks[i], ts.tv sec, ts.tv nsec);
```

```
yunmin@peace:~/ch10$ ./clkgettime2
clock=0 sec=1731299598 nsec=521924244
clock=1 sec=848741 nsec=488663422
clock=4 sec=848743 nsec=387681368
clock=2 sec=0 nsec=1299471
clock=3 sec=0 nsec=1305111
```

#### sleep()

• sleep(): sleep for a specified number of seconds

```
#include <unistd.h>
unsigned int sleep(unsigned int seconds);
```

- Causes the calling thread to sleep either until the number of realtime seconds specified in seconds have elapsed or until a signal arrives which is not ignored.
- Return value
  - Zero if the requested time has elapsed
  - The number of seconds left to sleep, if the call was interrupted by a signal handler

#### usleep()

• usleep(): suspend execution for microsecond intervals

```
#include <unistd.h>
int usleep(useconds_t usec);
```

- Suspends execution of the calling thread for (at least) usec microseconds.
- The sleep may be lengthened slightly by any system activity or by the time spent processing the call or by the granularity of system timers.

- Return value
  - Success: zero is returned
  - Error: -1 is returned

#### alarm()

• usleep(): set an alarm clock for delivery of a signal

```
#include <unistd.h>
unsigned int alarm(unsigned int seconds);
```

- Arranges for a SIGALRM signal to be delivered to the calling process in *seconds* seconds.
- If *seconds* is zero, any pending alarm is canceled.
- In any event any previously set *alarm()* is canceled.

- Return value
  - The number of seconds remaining until any previously scheduled alarm was due to be delivered
  - Zero if there was no previously scheduled alarm

#### alarm(): Example

```
#include <stdio.h>
                                        alarm.c
#include <unistd.h>
#include <signal.h>
// Signal handler for timeout
void timeout(int sig)
    if (sig == SIGALRM)
        puts("Time out!");
    // generate SIGALRM after 2 seconds
    alarm(2);
// Signal handler for key control
void keycontrol(int sig)
    if (sig == SIGINT)
        puts("CTRL+C pressed");
```

```
int main(int argc, char *argv[])
    int i;
    signal(SIGALRM, timeout); // for timeout
    signal(SIGINT, keycontrol); // for key control
    alarm(2);
              // generate SIGALRM after 2 seconds
    for (i = 0; i < 3; i++)
        puts("wait...");
        sleep(10); // sleep for 10 seconds
                          yunmin@peace:~/ch10$ ./alarm
    return 0;
                          wait...
                          Time out!
                          wait...
                          Time out!
                          wait...
                          Time out!
                          yunmin@peace:~/ch10$ ./alarm
                          wait...
                          ^CCTRL+C pressed
                          wait...
                          Time out!
                          wait...
                          ^CCTRL+C pressed
```

#### timer\_create()

• timer\_create(): create a POSIX per-process timer

```
#include <signal.h>
#include <time.h>
int timer create(clockid t clockid,
                 struct sigevent *_Nullable restrict sevp,
                        timer t *restrict timerid);
```

- Creates a new per-process interval timer.
- clockid: specifies the clock that the new timer uses to measure time.
- *sevp*: points to a sigevent structure that specifies how the caller should be notified when the timer expires
- timerid: the ID of the new timer is returned in the buffer pointed to by timerid.
- The new timer is initially disarmed.
- Return value
  - Success: zero and the ID of the new timer is placed in \*timerid
  - Failure: -1

#### timer create()

int

void

```
#include <signal.h>
struct sigevent {
    int
                   sigev notify; /* Notification type */
                   sigev_signo; /* Signal number */
    int
    union sigval sigev_value; /* Data passed with notification */
                 (*sigev_notify_function)(union sigval);
   void
                                  /* Notification function (SIGEV_THREAD) */
    pthread_attr_t *sigev_notify_attributes;
                                  /* Notification attributes */
    /* Linux only: */
    pid_t
                   sigev_notify_thread_id;
                                  /* ID of thread to signal (SIGEV THREAD ID) */
};
union sigval {
```

sival\_int; /\* Integer value \*/

\*sival\_ptr; /\* Pointer value \*/

/\* Data passed with notification \*/

#### timer create()

- The sigevent structure is used by various APIs to describe the way a process is to be notified about an event (e.g., completion of an asynchronous request, expiration of a timer, or the arrival of a message).
- The sigev notify field specifies how notification is to be performed.
  - SIGEV NONE: A null notification: don't do anything when the event occurs.
  - SIGEV\_SIGNAL: Notify the process by sending the signal specified in sigev\_signo. If the sigal is caught with a signal handler that was registered using the sigaction SA\_SIGINFO flag
  - SIGEV\_THREAD: Notify the process by invoking sigev\_notify\_function "as if" it were the start function of a new thread.

#### timer\_settime()

timer\_settime(): arm/disarm state of POSIX per-process timer

```
#include <time.h>
int timer_settime(timer_t timerid, int flags,
                  const struct itimerspec *restrict new value,
                  struct itimerspec *_Nullable restrict old_value);
```

- Arms or disarms the timer identified by timerid
- new\_value: points to an itimerspec structure that specifies the new initial value and the new interval for the timer
- Each of substructure of the itimerspec structure is a timespec structure

- old value: If old value is not NULL, then it points to a buffer that is used to return the previous interval of the timer
- Return value
  - Success: zero
  - Failure: -1

#### timer\_gettime()

• timer gettime(): fetch state of POSIX per-process timer

```
#include <time.h>
int timer_gettime(timer_t timerid, struct itimerspec *curr_value);
```

- Returns the time until next expiration, and the interval, for the timer specified by timerid, in the buffer pointed to by curr value
- The time remaining until the next timer expiration is returned in curr value->it value; this is always a relative value
- If the value returned in curr\_value->it value is zero, then the timer is currently disarmed
- The timer interval is returned in curr value->it interval.
- Return value
  - Success: zero
  - Failure: -1

## timer\_create(): Example

```
// Signal handler for timer expiration
void timer_handler(int sig) {    posix_timer.c
    if (sig == SIGALRM) {
        printf("Timer expired!\n");
int main() {
    struct sigevent sev;
    struct itimerspec its;
    timer t timerid;
    struct sigaction sa;
    // Set up the signal handler
    memset(&sa, 0, sizeof(sa));
    sa.sa handler = timer handler;
    sigemptyset(&sa.sa_mask);
    if (sigaction(SIGALRM, &sa, NULL) == -1) {
        perror("sigaction");
        exit(EXIT FAILURE);
    // Create the timer
    sev.sigev notify = SIGEV SIGNAL;
    sev.sigev signo = SIGALRM;
    sev.sigev value.sival ptr = &timerid;
```

```
if (timer create(CLOCK REALTIME, &sev, &timerid) == -1) {
    perror("timer_create");
    exit(EXIT FAILURE);
// Set the timer
its.it value.tv sec = 3; // First expiration in 3 seconds
its.it value.tv nsec = 0;
its.it interval.tv sec = 2; // Interval of 2 seconds after that
its.it interval.tv nsec = 0;
if (timer settime(timerid, 0, &its, NULL) == -1) {
    perror("timer settime");
    exit(EXIT FAILURE);
printf("Timer set. First 3 seconds, then every 2 seconds.\n");
// Infinite loop waiting for the timer to expire
while (1) {
    pause(); // Wait until a signal is received
// Delete the timer (won't actually be reached in this example)
if (timer delete(timerid) == -1) {
```