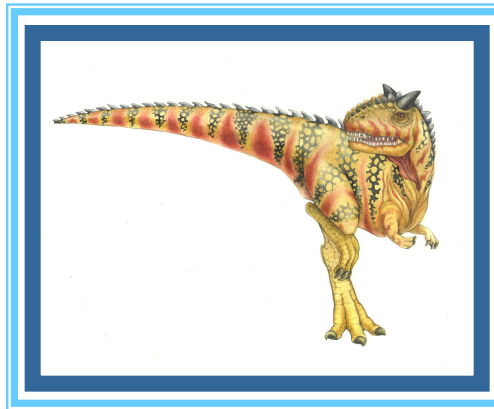


Chapter 3: Processes





Chapter 3: Processes

- Process Concept
- Process Scheduling
- Operations on Processes
- Inter-process Communication





Objectives

- To introduce a process
- To describe the various features of processes, including scheduling, creation and termination, and communication
- To explore inter-process communication
- To describe communication in client-server systems





Process Concept

- **Process** – informally, is a program in execution;
- **job** and **process** almost interchangeably used
- Multiple parts
 - The program code is **part of the process** , also called **text section**,
 - **program counter**, processor registers
 - **Stack** containing temporary data
 - 4 Function parameters, return addresses, local variables
 - **Data section** containing global variables
 - **Heap** containing memory dynamically allocated during run time





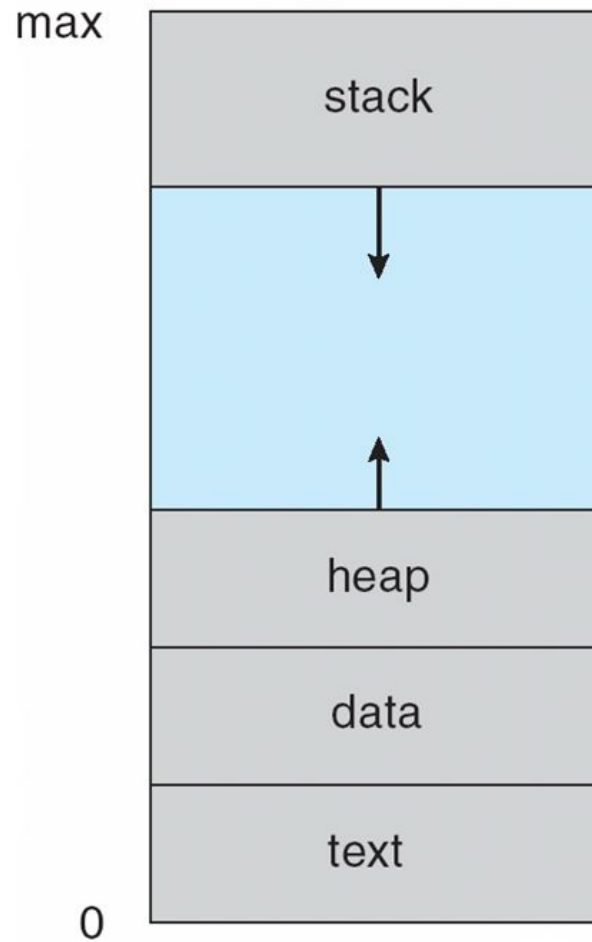
Process Concept (Cont.)

- Program is **passive** entity stored on disk (**executable file**), process is **active**
 - Program becomes process when executable file loaded into memory
- One program can be several processes
 - Consider multiple users executing the same program





Process in Memory





Process Creation / Termination

❑ Reasons for process creation

- ❖ User logs on
- ❖ User starts a program
- ❖ OS creates process to provide a service (e.g., printer daemon to manage printer)
- ❖ A program starts another process (e.g., netscape calls xv to display a picture)

❑ Reasons for process termination

- ❖ Normal completion
- ❖ Arithmetic error, or data misuse (e.g., wrong type)
 - ❖ Invalid instruction execution
 - ❖ Insufficient memory available, or memory bounds violation
- ❖ Resource protection error
- ❖ I/O failure





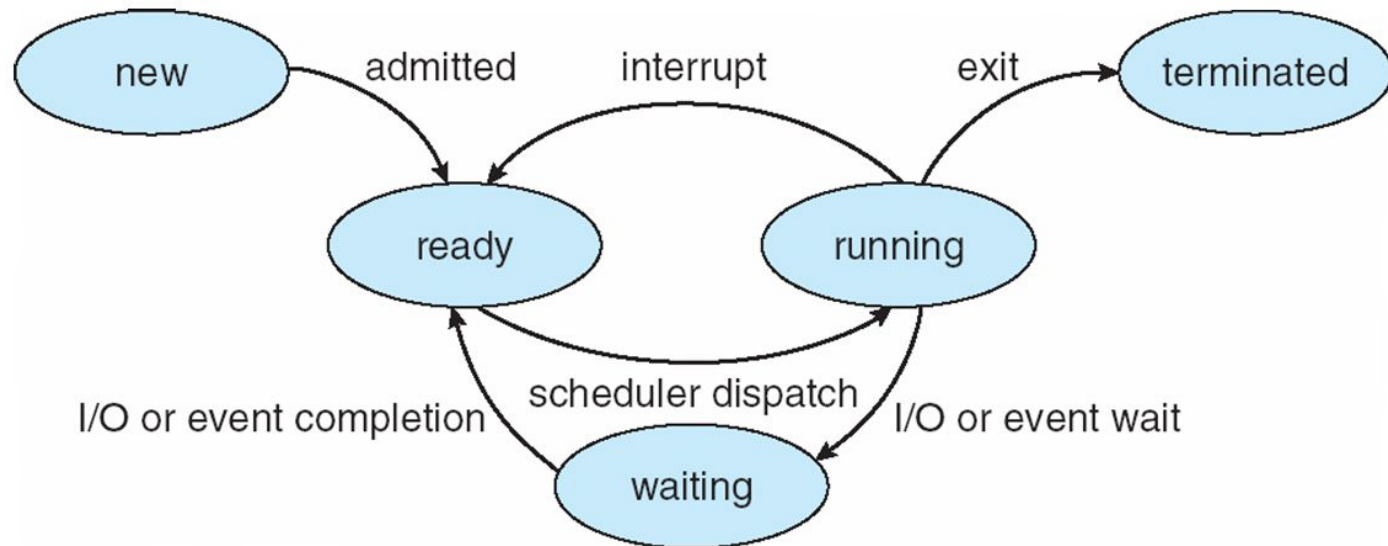
Process State

- As a process executes, it changes **state**
 - **new**: The process is being created
 - **running**: Instructions are being executed
 - **waiting**: The process is waiting for some event to occur
 - **ready**: The process is waiting to be assigned to a processor
 - **terminated**: The process has finished execution





Diagram of Process State

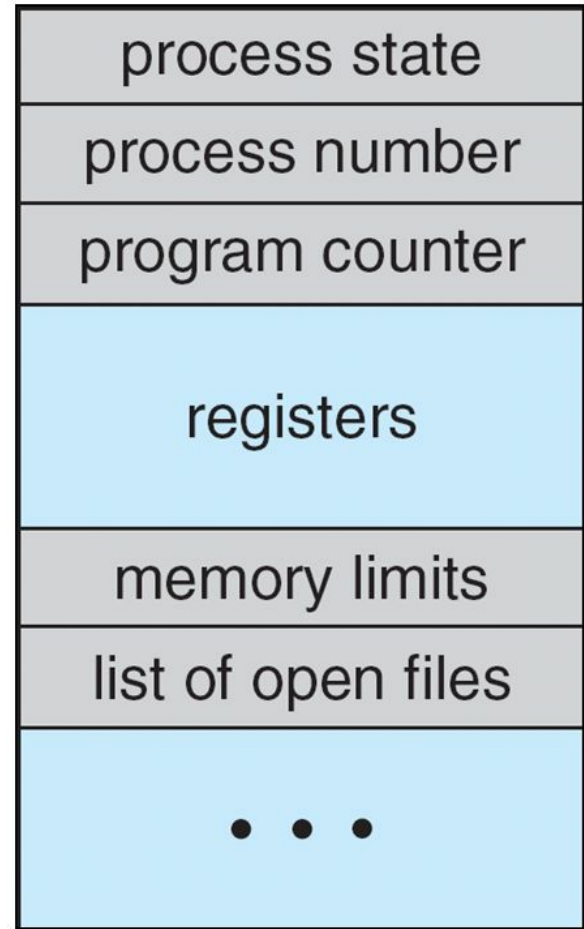




Process Control Block (PCB)

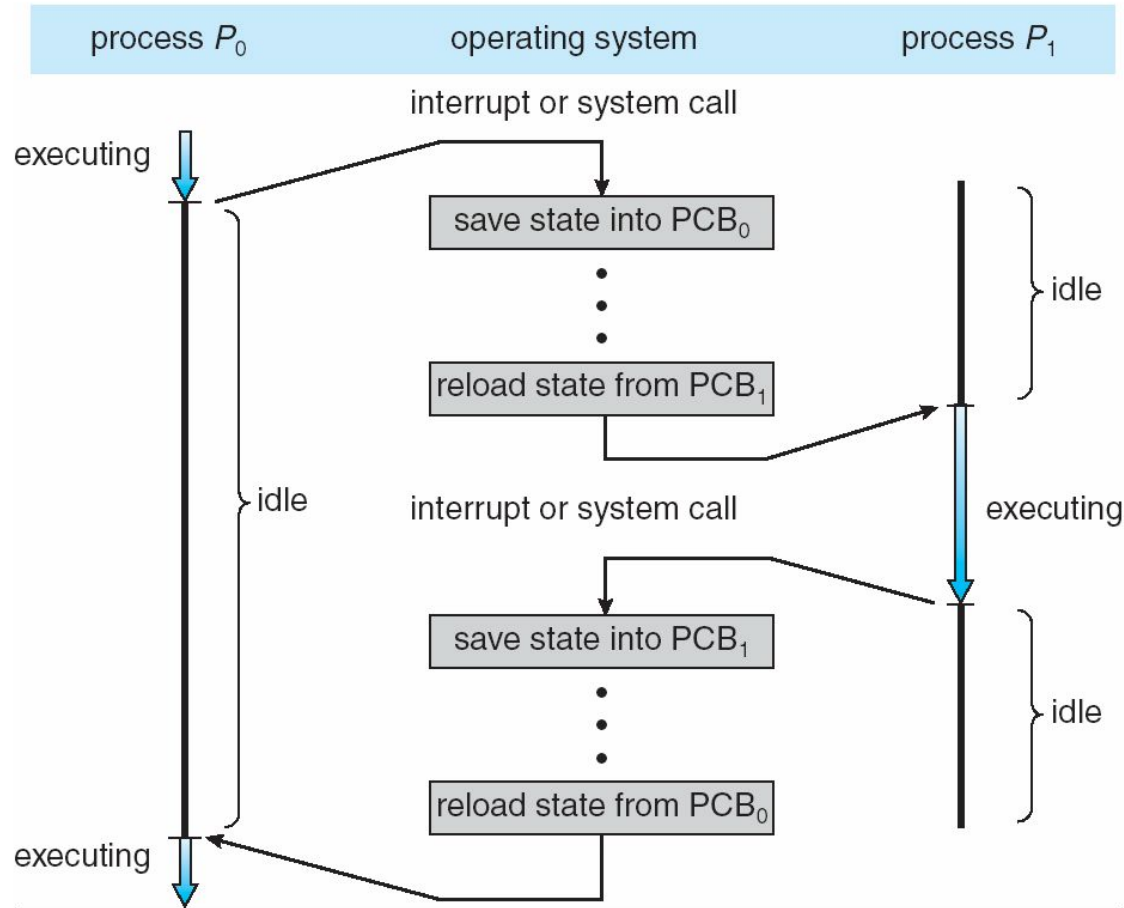
Information associated with each process
(also called **task control block**)

- Process state – running, waiting, etc
- Program counter – location of instruction to next execute
- CPU registers – contents of all process-centric registers
- CPU scheduling information- priorities, scheduling queue pointers
- Memory-management information – memory allocated to the process
- Accounting information – CPU used, clock time elapsed since start, time limits
- I/O status information – I/O devices allocated to process, list of open files





CPU Switch From Process to Process





Threads

- So far, process has a single thread of execution
- Consider having multiple program counters per process
 - Multiple locations can execute at once
 - 4 Multiple threads of control -> **threads**
- Must then have storage for thread details, multiple program counters in PCB
- See next chapter





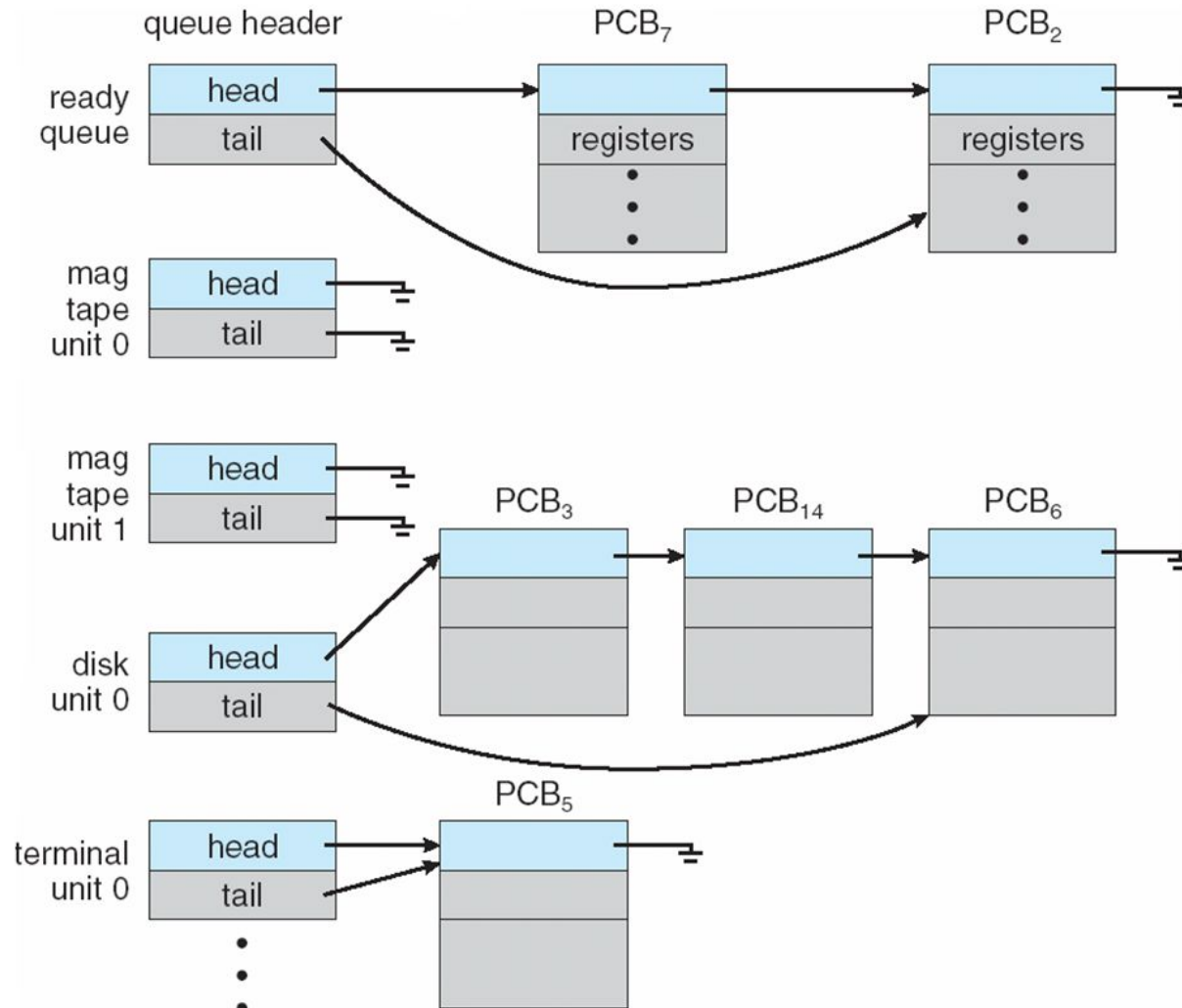
Process Scheduling

- Maximize CPU use, quickly switch processes onto CPU for time sharing
- **Process scheduler** selects among available processes for next execution on CPU
- Maintains **scheduling queues** of processes
 - **Job queue** – set of all processes in the system
 - **Ready queue** – set of all processes residing in main memory, ready and waiting to execute
 - **Device queues** – set of processes waiting for an I/O device
 - Processes migrate among the various queues





Ready Queue And Various I/O Device Queues





Schedulers

- **Short-term scheduler** (or **CPU scheduler**) – selects which process should be executed next and allocates CPU
 - Sometimes the only scheduler in a system
 - Short-term scheduler is invoked frequently (milliseconds) ⇒ (must be fast)
- **Long-term scheduler** (or **job scheduler**) – selects which processes should be brought into the ready queue
 - Long-term scheduler is invoked infrequently (seconds, minutes) ⇒ (may be slow)
 - The long-term scheduler controls the **degree of multiprogramming**
- Processes can be described as either:
 - **I/O-bound process** – spends more time doing I/O than computations, many short CPU bursts
 - **CPU-bound process** – spends more time doing computations; few very long CPU bursts
- Long-term scheduler strives for good **process mix**





Multitasking in Mobile Systems

- Some mobile systems (e.g., early version of iOS) allow only one process to run, others suspended
- Due to screen real estate, user interface limits iOS provides for a
 - Single **foreground** process- controlled via user interface
 - Multiple **background** processes– in memory, running, but not on the display, and with limits
 - Limits include single, short task, receiving notification of events, specific long-running tasks like audio playback
- Android runs foreground and background, with fewer limits
 - Background process uses a **service** to perform tasks
 - Service can keep running even if background process is suspended
 - Service has no user interface, small memory use





Context Switch

- When CPU switches to another process, the system must **save the state** of the old process and load the **saved state** for the new process via a **context switch**
- **Context** of a process represented in the PCB
- Context-switch time is overhead; the system does no useful work while switching
 - The more complex the OS and the PCB □ the longer the context switch
- Time dependent on hardware support
 - Some hardware provides multiple sets of registers per CPU
 - multiple contexts loaded at once





Operations on Processes

- System must provide mechanisms for:
 - process creation,
 - process termination,
 - and so on as detailed next





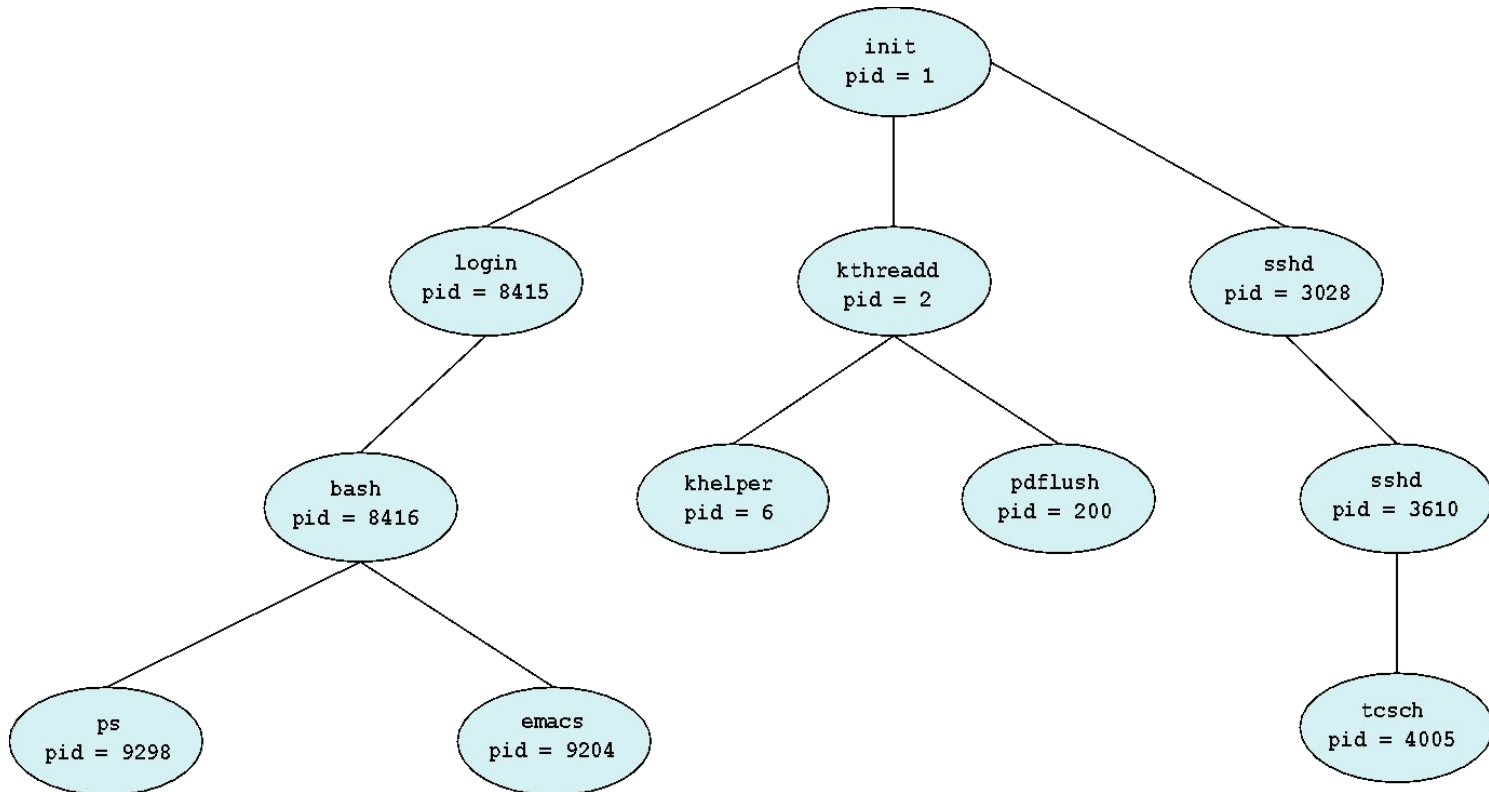
Process Creation

- **Parent** process create **children** processes, which, in turn create other processes, forming a **tree** of processes
- Generally, process identified and managed via a **process identifier (pid)**
- Resource sharing options
 - Parent and children share all resources
 - Children share subset of parent's resources
 - Parent and child share no resources
- Execution options
 - Parent and children execute concurrently
 - Parent waits until children terminate





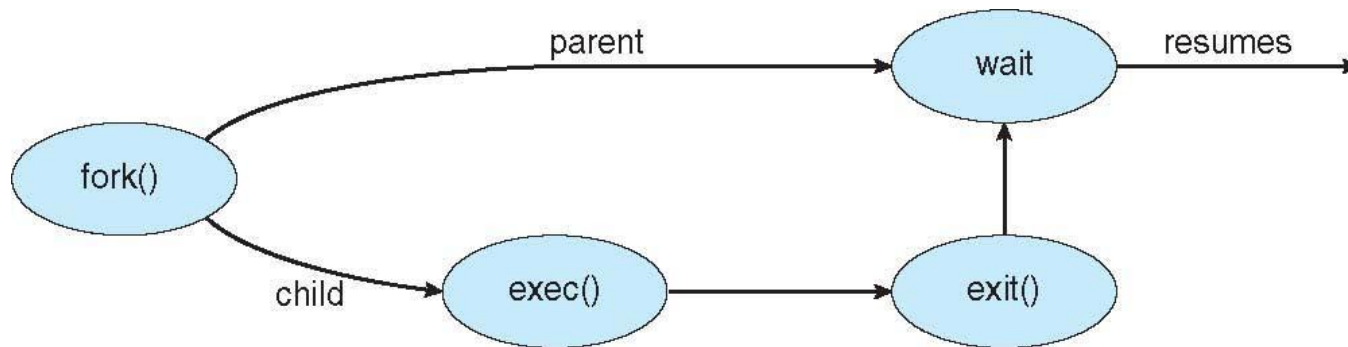
A Tree of Processes in Linux





Process Creation (Cont.)

- Address space
 - Child duplicate of parent
 - Child has a program loaded into it
- UNIX examples
 - **fork()** system call creates new process
 - **exec()** system call used after a **fork()** to replace the process' memory space with a new program





Process Termination

- Process executes last statement and then asks the operating system to delete it using the **exit()** system call.
 - Returns status data from child to parent (via **wait()**)
 - Process' resources are deallocated by operating system
- Parent may terminate the execution of children processes using the **abort()** system call. Some reasons for doing so:
 - Child has exceeded allocated resources
 - Task assigned to child is no longer required
 - The parent is exiting and the operating systems does not allow a child to continue if its parent terminates





Process Termination

- Some operating systems do not allow child to exist if its parent has terminated. If a process terminates, then all its children must also be terminated.
 - **cascading termination.** All children, grandchildren, etc. are terminated.
 - The termination is initiated by the operating system.
- The parent process may wait for termination of a child process by using the `wait()` system call. The call returns status information and the pid of the terminated process

```
pid = wait(&status);
```
- If no parent waiting (did not invoke `wait()`) process is a **zombie**
- If parent terminated without invoking `wait`, process is an **orphan**





Multiprocess Architecture – Chrome Browser

- Many web browsers ran as single process (some still do)
 - If one web site causes trouble, entire browser can hang or crash
- Google Chrome Browser is multiprocess with 3 different types of processes:
 - **Browser** process manages user interface, disk and network I/O
 - **Renderer** process renders web pages, deals with HTML, Javascript. A new renderer created for each website opened
 - 4 Runs in **sandbox** restricting disk and network I/O, minimizing effect of security exploits
 - **Plug-in** process for each type of plug-in





Interprocess Communication

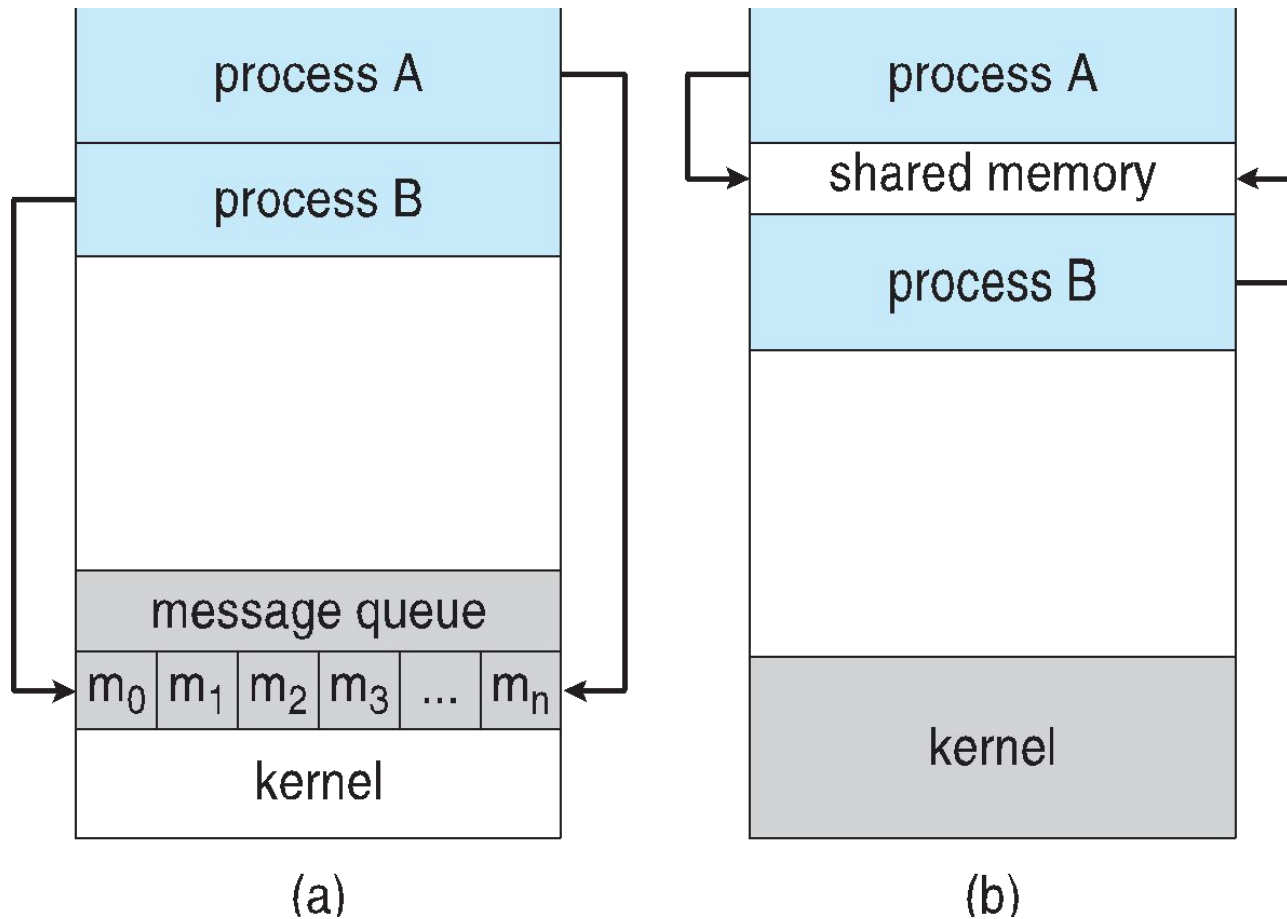
- Processes within a system may be *independent* or *cooperating*
- Cooperating process can affect or be affected by other processes, including sharing data
- Reasons for cooperating processes:
 - Information sharing
 - Computation speedup
 - Modularity
 - Convenience
- Cooperating processes need **interprocess communication (IPC)**
- Two models of IPC
 - **Shared memory**
 - **Message passing**





Communications Models

(a) Message passing. (b) shared memory.





Cooperating Processes

- **Independent** process cannot affect or be affected by the execution of another process
- **Cooperating** process can affect or be affected by the execution of another process
- Advantages of process cooperation
 - Information sharing
 - Computation speed-up
 - Modularity
 - Convenience





Interprocess Communication – Shared Memory

- An area of memory shared among the processes that wish to communicate
- The communication is under the control of the users processes not the operating system.
- Major issues is to provide mechanism that will allow the user processes to synchronize their actions when they access shared memory.
- Synchronization is discussed in great details in Chapter 5.





Interprocess Communication – Message Passing

- Mechanism for processes to communicate and to synchronize their actions
- Message system – processes communicate with each other without resorting to shared variables
- IPC facility provides two operations:
 - **send**(*message*)
 - **receive**(*message*)
- The *message* size is either fixed or variable





Message Passing (Cont.)

- If processes P and Q wish to communicate, they need to:
 - Establish a **communication link** between them
 - Exchange messages via send/receive
- Implementation issues:
 - How are links established?
 - Can a link be associated with more than two processes?
 - How many links can there be between every pair of communicating processes?
 - What is the capacity of a link?
 - Is the size of a message that the link can accommodate fixed or variable?
 - Is a link unidirectional or bi-directional?





Message Passing (Cont.)

- Implementation of communication link
 - Physical:
 - 4 Shared memory
 - 4 Hardware bus
 - 4 Network
 - Logical:
 - 4 Direct or indirect
 - 4 Synchronous or asynchronous
 - 4 Automatic or explicit buffering





Direct Communication

- Processes must name each other explicitly:
 - **send** (P , *message*) – send a message to process P
 - **receive**(Q , *message*) – receive a message from process Q
- Properties of communication link
 - Links are established automatically
 - A link is associated with exactly one pair of communicating processes
 - Between each pair there exists exactly one link
 - The link may be unidirectional, but is usually bi-directional





Indirect Communication

- Messages are directed and received from mailboxes (also referred to as ports)
 - Each mailbox has a unique id
 - Processes can communicate only if they share a mailbox
- Properties of communication link
 - Link established only if processes share a common mailbox
 - A link may be associated with many processes
 - Each pair of processes may share several communication links
 - Link may be unidirectional or bi-directional





Synchronization

- Message passing may be either blocking or non-blocking
- **Blocking** is considered **synchronous**
 - **Blocking send** -- the sender is blocked until the message is received
 - **Blocking receive** -- the receiver is blocked until a message is available
- **Non-blocking** is considered **asynchronous**
 - **Non-blocking send** -- the sender sends the message and continue
 - **Non-blocking receive** -- the receiver receives:
 - A valid message, or
 - Null message
- Different combinations possible
 - If both send and receive are blocking, we have a **rendezvous**





Buffering

- Queue of messages attached to the link.
- implemented in one of three ways
 1. Zero capacity – no messages are queued on a link.
Sender must wait for receiver (rendezvous)
 2. Bounded capacity – finite length of n messages
Sender must wait if link full
 3. Unbounded capacity – infinite length
Sender never waits





Communications in Client-Server Systems

- Sockets
- Remote Procedure Calls
- Pipes
- Remote Method Invocation (Java)





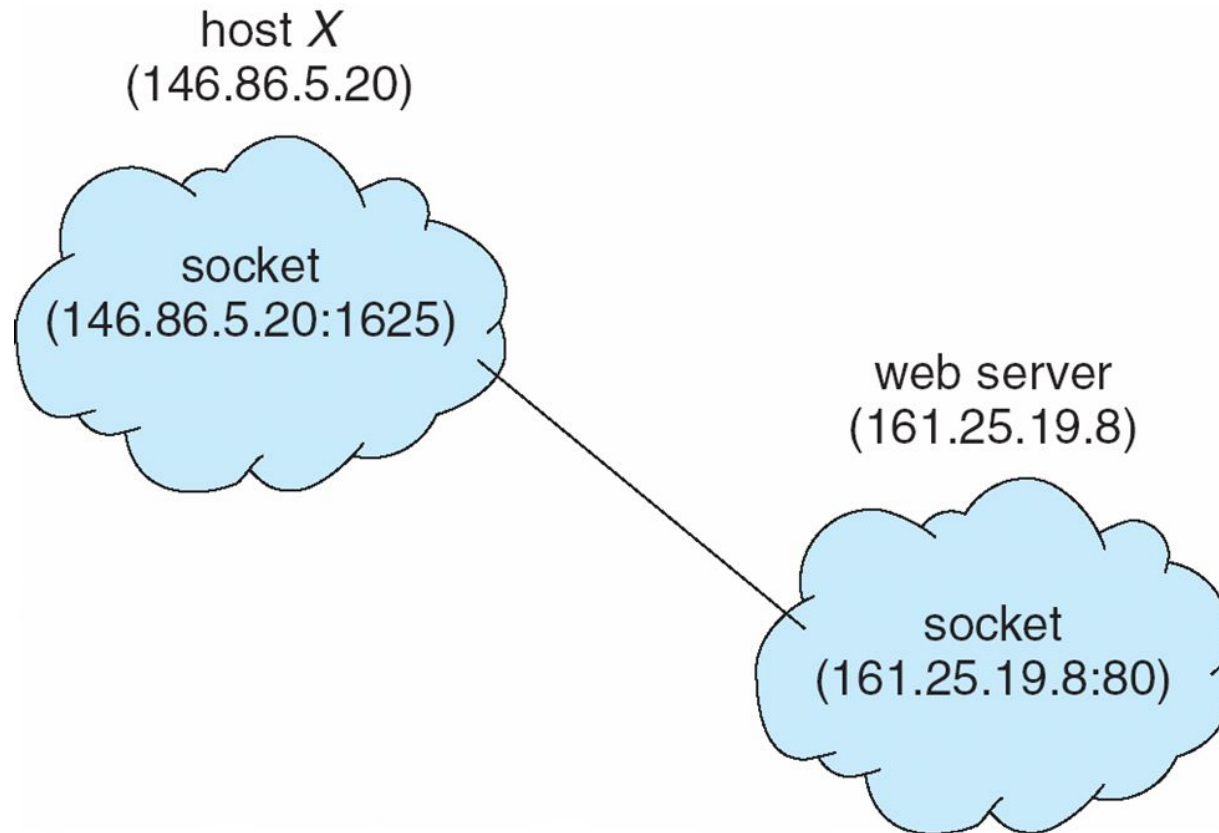
Sockets

- A **socket** is defined as an endpoint for communication
- Concatenation of IP address and **port** – a number included at start of message packet to differentiate network services on a host
- The socket **161.25.19.8:1625** refers to port **1625** on host **161.25.19.8**
- Communication consists between a pair of sockets
- All ports below 1024 are **well known**, used for standard services
- Special IP address 127.0.0.1 (**loopback**) to refer to system on which process is running





Socket Communication





Sockets in Java

- Three types of sockets
 - **Connection-oriented (TCP)**
 - **Connectionless (UDP)**
 - **MulticastSocket** class– data can be sent to multiple recipients
- Consider this “Date” server:



End of Chapter 3

