

Chapter 5: Process API

- Process creation on UNIX systems

5.1 fork()

- The `fork()` system call is used to create a new process.
- A process identifier known as a PID is used to name the process.
- When a process is forked the forked process is almost an exact copy of the original process.
 - The calling process is the parent, the forked process is the child.
 - The child starts running at the `fork()` call not `main`.
- Which one is running at a given time is not deterministic.
 - The CPU scheduler determines which runs at a given moment.
 - Can cause problems in multithreaded programs.

5.2 wait()

- The `wait` system call delays execution.

`exec()`

- Used when you want to run a program that is different than the calling program