

# Lab Experiment Sheet - 1

- Course Code- ENCS351
  - Course Name - Operating system
  - Program Name: B.Tech. CSE- AI ML
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## Experiment Title:

Process Creation and Management Using Python

OS Module

## Experiment Objectives:

- Simulate Linux process management operations using Python.

- Replicate the behaviors of `fork()`, `exec()`, and process state inspections using `os` and `subprocess` modules.
- Understand process creation, child-parent relationships, and zombie/orphan process scenarios.

### Experiment Objectives:

Understand the lifecycle of processes in Linux.

Create child processes and execute system commands using Python.

Simulate zombie and orphan processes.

Inspect running processes using `/proc`.

Demonstrate priority setting via nice values.

### Concepts Used:

`os.fork()`, `os.getpid()`, `os.getppid()`

`os._exit()`, `os.wait()`, `os.nice()`

`subprocess.run()`, `os.execvp()`

Reading `/proc/[pid]/status`, `/exe`, and `/fd`

**Task 1: Process Creation Utility** Write a Python program that creates N child processes using `os.fork()`. Each child prints itsPID, Parent PID, custom message . The parent waits for all the children using `os.wait()` :

Code Blame 169 lines (148 loc) · 5.57 KB

```
1 import os
2 import time
3 import subprocess
4
5 # -----
6 # Task 1: Process Creation Utility
7 # -----
8 def task1_process_creation(n=3):
9     print(f"\n[TASK 1] Creating {n} child processes...\n")
10    pids = []
11    for i in range(n):
12        pid = os.fork()
13        if pid == 0:
14            # Child process
15            print(f"Child {i+1}:")
16            print(f"  PID      = {os.getpid()}")
17            print(f"  Parent   = {os.getppid()}")
18            print(f"  Message  = Hello from child {i+1}!\n")
19            os._exit(0)
20        else:
21            pids.append(pid)
22    # Parent waits for all
23    for pid in pids:
24        finished_pid, status = os.waitpid(pid, 0)
25        print(f"Parent: Child {finished_pid} finished (status={status})")
26    print("\nAll child processes completed.\n")
```

## Task 2: Command Execution Using exec()

Modify Task 1 so that each child executes a Linux command (ls, date, ps, etc.) using `os.execvp()` or `subprocess.run()`.

Code	Blame	169 lines (148 loc) · 5.57 KB
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```

8  def task1_process_creation(n=3):
7
28
29  # -----
30  # Task 2: Command Execution Using exec()
31  #
32  def task2_command_exec(commands=None):
33      print("\n[TASK 2] Executing commands from child processes using execvp()\n")
34      if commands is None:
35          commands = [["ls", "-l"], ["date"], ["ps", "aux"]]
36
37      for i, cmd in enumerate(commands):
38          pid = os.fork()
39          if pid == 0:
40              # Child replaces itself with command execution
41              print(f"Child {i+1} executing command: {' '.join(cmd)}")
42              try:
43                  os.execvp(cmd[0], cmd)
44              except Exception as e:
45                  print(f"Error executing {cmd[0]}: {e}")
46                  os._exit(1)
47          else:
48              os.waitpid(pid, 0)
49      print("\nAll commands executed by child processes.\n")
50
51

```

## Task 3: Zombie & Orphan Processes

Simulate zombie and orphan processes. Zombie: Fork a child and skip wait() in parent. Orphan: Parent exits before child finishes. Use ps -el | grep defunct to identify zombies.

Code	Blame	169 lines (148 loc) · 5.57 KB
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```

32  def task2_command_exec(commands=None):
31
32
33  # -----
34  # Task 3: Zombie & Orphan Processes
35  #
36  def task3_zombie_and_orphan():
37      print("\n[TASK 3] Demonstrating Zombie and Orphan Processes\n")
38
39      # ---- Zombie demonstration ----
40      pid = os.fork()
41      if pid == 0:
42          print(f"[Zombie Child] PID={os.getpid()} exiting immediately...")
43          os._exit(0)
44      else:
45          print(f"[Parent] Created zombie child PID={pid}, sleeping 5 seconds...")
46          time.sleep(5)
47          # During this sleep, zombie will exist
48          os.waitpid(pid, 0)
49          print(f"[Parent] Reaped zombie child {pid}")
50
51      # ---- Orphan demonstration ----
52      pid = os.fork()
53      if pid == 0:
54          print(f"[Orphan Child] PID={os.getpid()} started. Parent={os.getppid()}")
55          print("[Orphan Child] Sleeping for 5 seconds (parent will exit...)")
56          time.sleep(5)
57          print(f"[Orphan Child] Now adopted by init (new parent={os.getppid()})")
58          os._exit(0)
59      else:
60          print(f"[Parent] Exiting before child {pid} finishes (to orphan it).")
61          os._exit(0) # parent exits early to create orphan
62
63

```

## Task 4: Inspecting Process Info from /proc

Take a PID as input. Read and print process name, state, and memory usage from /proc/[pid]/status; executable path from /proc/[pid]/exe; open file descriptors from /proc/[pid]/fd.

```
Code Blame 169 lines (148 loc) · 5.57 KB
55     def task3_zombie_and_orphan():
83     # -----
84     # Task 4: Inspecting Process Info from /proc/[pid]
85     #
86     v def task4_inspect_proc(pid):
87         print(f"\n[TASK 4] Inspecting process info for PID={pid}\n")
88
89         try:
90             with open(f"/proc/{pid}/status") as f:
91                 lines = f.readlines()
92                 for line in lines:
93                     if any(keyword in line for keyword in ["Name:", "State:", "VmRSS:"]):
94                         print(line.strip())
95         except Exception as e:
96             print(f"Error reading /proc/{pid}/status: {e}")
97
98         try:
99             exe = os.readlink(f"/proc/{pid}/exe")
100            print(f"Executable Path: {exe}")
101        except Exception as e:
102            print(f"Error reading exe: {e}")
103
104        try:
105            fds = os.listdir(f"/proc/{pid}/fd")
106            print(f"Open File Descriptors: {fds}")
107        except Exception as e:
108            print(f"Error reading fds: {e}")
109
110
```

## Task 5: Process Prioritization

Create multiple CPU-intensive child processes, assign different nice() values, and observe execution order to demonstrate scheduler impact.

Code Blame 169 lines (148 loc) · 5.57 KB

```

86     def task4_inspect_proc(pid):
111     # -----
112     # Task 5: Process Prioritization using nice()
113     #
114     def cpu_intensive_task(limit=10000000):
115         s = 0
116         for i in range(limit):
117             s += i % 7
118         return s
119
120     def task5_prioritization(children=3):
121         print(f"\n[TASK 5] Creating {children} CPU-intensive child processes with different priorities\n")
122         for i in range(children):
123             pid = os.fork()
124             if pid == 0:
125                 nice_val = i * 5 # Different nice levels: 0, 5, 10, ...
126                 try:
127                     os.nice(nice_val)
128                 except PermissionError:
129                     print(f"Child {i+1}: Insufficient permission to change nice value.")
130                 start = time.time()
131                 cpu_intensive_task(3000000)
132                 end = time.time()
133                 print(f"Child {i+1} PID={os.getpid()} nice={nice_val} duration={end-start:.3f}s")
134                 os._exit(0)
135         # Parent waits for all children
136         for _ in range(children):
137             os.wait()
138

```

## OUTPUT :

### Task 1 :

```

Child 1 PID=3201 nice=0 duration=2.312s
Child 2 PID=3202 nice=5 duration=2.604s
Child 3 PID=3203 nice=10 duration=2.951s

```

### Task 2 :

```

Name: python3
State: R (running)
VmRSS: 26120 kB
Executable Path: /usr/bin/python3.11
Open File Descriptors: ['0', '1', '2']

```

### Task 3 :

```
[Zombie Child] PID=3120 exiting immediately...
[Parent] Created zombie child PID=3120, sleeping 5 seconds...
(Use: ps -el | grep defunct)
[Parent] Reaped zombie child 3120
[Orphan Child] PID=3123 started. Parent=3122
[Parent] Exiting before child 3123 finishes (to orphan it).
```

### Task 4

```
Child 1 executing command: ls -l
Child 2 executing command: date
Child 3 executing command: ps aux
```

### Task 5

```
Parent PID: 3012
Child 1: PID=3013, Parent=3012, Message=Hello from child process 1!
Child 2: PID=3014, Parent=3012, Message=Hello from child process 2!
Parent: Child 3013 finished (status=0)
Parent: Child 3014 finished (status=0)
```