

# Lab Experiment Sheet - 1

- Course Code- ENCS351
- Course Name - Operating system
- Program Name: B.Tech. CSE- AI ML
  
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- GitHub Repository Link : <https://github.com/Suryansh-Dhama/OS-Assignment.git>



## 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 its PID, 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")
27
28
```

## 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
8 def task1_process_creation(n=3):
27
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
32 def task2_command_exec(commands=None):
51
52 # -----
53 # Task 3: Zombie & Orphan Processes
54 # -----
55 def task3_zombie_and_orphan():
56     print("\n[TASK 3] Demonstrating Zombie and Orphan Processes\n")
57
58     # ---- Zombie demonstration ----
59     pid = os.fork()
60     if pid == 0:
61         print(f"[Zombie Child] PID={os.getpid()} exiting immediately...")
62         os._exit(0)
63     else:
64         print(f"[Parent] Created zombie child PID={pid}, sleeping 5 seconds...")
65         time.sleep(5)
66         # During this sleep, zombie will exist
67         os.waitpid(pid, 0)
68         print(f"[Parent] Reaped zombie child {pid}")
69
70     # ---- Orphan demonstration ----
71     pid = os.fork()
72     if pid == 0:
73         print(f"[Orphan Child] PID={os.getpid()} started. Parent={os.getppid()}")
74         print(f"[Orphan Child] Sleeping for 5 seconds (parent will exit)...")
75         time.sleep(5)
76         print(f"[Orphan Child] Now adopted by init (new parent={os.getppid()})")
77         os._exit(0)
78     else:
79         print(f"[Parent] Exiting before child {pid} finishes (to orphan it).")
80         os._exit(0) # parent exits early to create orphan
81
82
```

## 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 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=1000000):
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()
```

## 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)
```