

Computer Architecture and Operating Systems

MONSOON SEMESTER of 2019

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Creating Own Linux Shell

Step 1: Take and parse inputs from the user using the fgets() function.

This is done using a character array that takes space separated input as an individual element in an array. Include the relevant libraries.

```
char inputval[21] = {0x0};
    char *ptr = inputval;
    char *args[21] = {NULL};
    printf("\n -> ");
    fgets(inputval, 21, stdin);
    // printf("%s\n", );
    strcpy(history[counterval], inputval);
    counterval += 1;
    for (int i = 0; i < sizeof(args) && *ptr; ptr++)
    {
        if (*ptr == ' ') continue;
        if (*ptr == '\n') break;
        for (args[i++] = ptr; *ptr && *ptr != ' ' &&
*ptr != '\n'; ptr++);
        *ptr = '\0';
    }
```

Step 2: Create a child process using the fork() system call in which the whole shell will run.

```
System("clear");

pid_t child=fork();

if(child<0)
{
    perror("Fork Error. PID<0.");
    exit(-1);
}

if (child!=0)
{
    // printf("I'm the parent with pid %d\n", getpid() );
    wait(NULL);
}

if (child==0)
{ // Code //
}
```

Step 3: Within this child, every command forks a new child, executes the command and then exits, thereby killing the child process. During execution, the wait() function is set to NULL, hence the child won't be killed unless the execution completes.

```
if (strcmp(inputval, "ls")==0)
{
    pid_t newchild=fork();
    if (newchild == 0)
    {
        execv("ls",args);
        // exit(0);
    }
    wait(NULL);

    // printf("input is %d", *inputval);
}
```

Step 4: Repeat the forking for all commands. Use system() syscall for internal commands.

Step 5: For external commands, create new C files and write the implementation of the respective commands. Call this compiled C file in the main shell file using the `execv()` syscall.

```
///// rm.c /////
int main(int argc, char *fileval[])
{
    // printf(fileval[1]);
    printf("I'm RM command!\n");
    // for (int i=0; i<21; i++){
    //     printf("%s\n", argv[i]);
    // }
    if(strcmp(fileval[1], "-I")==0)
    {
        printf("Do You Want to Delete %s\n", fileval[2]);
        char choice[5];
        scanf("%c", &choice);
        remove(fileval[2]);

    }
    else
    {
        printf("Not Deleted");
    }

    return 0;
}
```

```
//////// mainshell.c //////////  
if (strcmp(inputval, "rm")==0)  
{  
    pid_t newchild=fork();  
    if (newchild == 0)  
    {  
        execv("rm",args);  
        // exit(0);  
    }  
    wait(NULL);  
  
    // printf("input is %d", *inputval);  
}
```

Step 6: Finally create a Makefile that compiles the main shell C file and executes it.

```
makeshell: hello.c
```

```
gcc -o mainshell hello.c
```

```
./mainshell
```

Step 7: The shell is ready!

```
Hello! Welcome to Abhi's xterminalx, the most powerful terminal!  
I'm the child process with pid 4717 and I will be your terminal. Input a command  
.  
-> 
```

A screenshot of a terminal window. The title bar at the top reads "Abhi's xterminalx". The terminal content shows a welcome message: "Hello! Welcome to Abhi's xterminalx, the most powerful terminal!" followed by "I'm the child process with pid 4717 and I will be your terminal. Input a command". Below this is a single dot "." and a prompt "-> " with a white cursor. On the left side of the terminal, there is a vertical sidebar with a small icon and the text "Applications". The bottom of the terminal window shows a dark, textured background.