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Lab Report Name : Linux command for process

Theory

1. How to Manage Processes from the Linux Terminal?

An instance of a program is called a Process. In simple terms, any command that you give to your Linux machine starts a new process.

Linux Processes Management

- 1. Starting a Process. When you start a process(run a command), there are two ways you can run it ...
- 2. Listing Running Processes. ...
- 3. Stopping Processes. ...
- 4. Parent and Child Processes. ...
- 5. Zombie and Orphan Processes. ...
- 6. Daemon Processes. ...
- 7. The top Command. ...
- 8. Job ID Versus Process ID.

Starting a Process

When we start a process (run a command), there are two ways we can

- 1.Foreground Processes
- 2 .background processes

By default, every process that you start runs in the foreground. It gets its input from the keyboard and sends its output to the screen.

You can see this happen with the **ls** command. If you wish to list all the files in your current directory, you can use the following command –

```
$ls ch*.doc
```

This would display all the files, the names of which start with **ch** and end with **.doc** –

```
ch01-1.doc ch010.doc ch02.doc ch03-2.doc ch04-1.doc ch040.doc ch05.doc ch06-2.doc ch01-2.doc ch02-1.doc
```

The process runs in the foreground, the output is directed to my screen, and if the **ls** command wants any input (which it does not), it waits for it from the keyboard.

While a program is running in the foreground and is time-consuming, no other commands can be run (start any other processes) because the prompt would not be available until the program finishes processing and comes out.

Background Processes

A background process runs without being connected to your keyboard. If the background process requires any keyboard input, it waits.

The advantage of running a process in the background is that you can run other commands; you do not have to wait until it completes to start another!

The simplest way to start a background process is to add an ampersand (&) at the end of the command.

```
$ls ch*.doc &
```

This displays all those files the names of which start with **ch** and end with **.doc** –

```
ch01-1.doc ch010.doc ch02.doc ch03-2.doc ch04-1.doc ch040.doc ch05.doc ch06-2.doc ch01-2.doc ch02-1.doc
```

Here, if the **ls** command wants any input (which it does not), it goes into a stop state until we move it into the foreground and give it the data from the keyboard.

That first line contains information about the background process - the job number and the process ID. You need to know the job number to manipulate it between the background and the foreground.

Press the Enter key and you will see the following –

```
[1] + Done ls ch*.doc & $
```

The first line tells you that the **ls** command background process finishes successfully. The second is a prompt for another command.

Listing Running Processes

It is easy to see your own processes by running the **ps** (process status) command as follows –

```
$ps
PID TTY TIME CMD
18358 ttyp3 00:00:00 sh
18361 ttyp3 00:01:31 abiword
18789 ttyp3 00:00:00 ps
```

One of the most commonly used flags for ps is the $-\mathbf{f}$ (f for full) option, which provides more information as shown in the following example –

```
$ps -f

UID PID PPID C STIME TTY TIME CMD

amrood 6738 3662 0 10:23:03 pts/6 0:00 first_one

amrood 6739 3662 0 10:22:54 pts/6 0:00 second_one

amrood 3662 3657 0 08:10:53 pts/6 0:00 -ksh

amrood 6892 3662 4 10:51:50 pts/6 0:00 ps -f
```

Here is the description of all the fields displayed by **ps -f** command –

Sr.N o.	Column & Description							
1	UID User ID that this process belongs to (the person running it)							
2	PID Process ID							
3	PPID							

	Parent process ID (the ID of the process that started it)							
4	С							
	CPU utilization of process							
5	STIME							
	Process start time							
	ТТҮ							
6	Terminal type associated with the process							
	TIME							
7	CPU time taken by the process							
	CMD							
8	The command that started this process							

There are other options which can be used along with **ps** command –

Sr.N o.	Option & Description						
1	-a Shows information about all users						
2	-x Shows information about processes without terminals						

3	-u Shows additional information like -f option
4	-e Displays extended information

Stopping Processes

Ending a process can be done in several different ways. Often, from a console-based command, sending a CTRL + C keystroke (the default interrupt character) will exit the command. This works when the process is running in the foreground mode.

If a process is running in the background, you should get its Job ID using the **ps** command. After that, you can use the **kill** command to kill the process as follows –

```
$ps-f

UID PID PPID C STIME TTY TIME CMD

amrood 6738 3662 0 10:23:03 pts/6 0:00 first_one

amrood 6739 3662 0 10:22:54 pts/6 0:00 second_one

amrood 3662 3657 0 08:10:53 pts/6 0:00 -ksh

amrood 6892 3662 4 10:51:50 pts/6 0:00 ps -f

$kill 6738

Terminated
```

Here, the **kill** command terminates the **first_one** process. If a process ignores a regular kill command, you can use **kill -9** followed by the process ID as follows –

```
$kill -9 6738
Terminated
```

Parent and Child Processes

Each unix process has two ID numbers assigned to it: The Process ID (pid) and the Parent process ID (ppid). Each user process in the system has a parent process.

Most of the commands that you run have the shell as their parent. Check the **ps -f** example where this command listed both the process ID and the parent process ID.

Zombie and Orphan Processes

Normally, when a child process is killed, the parent process is updated via a **SIGCHLD** signal. Then the parent can do some other task or restart a new child as needed. However, sometimes the parent process is killed before its child is killed. In this case, the "parent of all processes," the **init** process, becomes the new PPID (parent process ID). In some cases, these processes are called orphan processes.

When a process is killed, a **ps** listing may still show the process with a **Z** state. This is a zombie or defunct process. The process is dead and not being used. These processes are different from the orphan processes. They have completed execution but still find an entry in the process table.

Daemon Processes

Daemons are system-related background processes that often run with the permissions of root and services requests from other processes.

A daemon has no controlling terminal. It cannot ope /dev/tty. If you do a "ps -ef" and look at the tty field, all daemons will have a ? for the tty.

To be precise, a daemon is a process that runs in the background, usually waiting for something to happen that it is capable of working with. For example, a printer daemon waiting for print commands.

If you have a program that calls for lengthy processing, then it's worth to make it a daemon and run it in the background.

The top Command

The **top** command is a very useful tool for quickly showing processes sorted by various criteria.

It is an interactive diagnostic tool that updates frequently and shows information about physical and virtual memory, CPU usage, load averages, and your busy processes.

Here is the simple syntax to run top command and to see the statistics of CPU utilization by different processes –

\$top

2. Run the following process commands in Linux.

Top, htop, Ps, pstree, kill, pgrep, pkill ,killall, renice, xkill.

a) Top

abdullah@abdullah-VirtualBox: ~											
File Edit View Se	File Edit View Search Terminal Help										
abdullah@abdullah-VirtualBox:~\$ top											
top - 19:41:59 up 10 min, 1 user, load average: 0.63, 1.10, 0.78											
Tasks: 233 total, 1 running, 200 sleeping, 0 stopped, 0 zombie											
%Cpu(s): 1.3 us, 0.0 sy, 0.0 ni, 92.3 id, 6.3 wa, 0.0 hi, 0.0 si, 0.0 st											
KiB Mem : 2040976 total, 80160 free, 1548456 used, 412360 buff/cache											
KiB Swap: 2097148 total, 1972220 free, 124928 used. 213532 avail Mem											
PID USER	PR	NI	VIRT	RES	SHR S	%CPU	%MEM	TIME+ COMMAND			
1097 abdullah	20	0		102316		0.7	5.0				
1229 abdullah		0	3022760				18.2				
2367 abdullah		0	799116		26252 S	0.7	1.7	3			
2385 abdullah	20	0	51656								
1 root	20	0	159988	4836	3344 S	0.0	0.2	,			
2 root	20	0	0	0	0 S	0.0	0.0	0:00.00 kthreadd			
4 root	0	-20	0	0	0 I		0.0	0:00.00 kworker/0:0H			
5 root	20	0	0	0	0 I		0.0	0:00.08 kworker/u2:0			
6 root		-20	0	0	0 I		0.0	0:00.00 mm_percpu_wq			
7 root	20	0	0	0	0 S		0.0	0:00.18 ksoftirqd/0			
8 root	20	0	0	0	0 I		0.0	0:00.54 rcu_sched			
9 root	20	0	0	0	0 I		0.0	0:00.00 rcu_bh			
10 root	rt	0	0	0	0 S		0.0				
11 root	rt	0	0	0	0 S		0.0	0:00.00 watchdog/0			
12 root	20	0	0	0	0 S	0.0	0.0	0:00.00 cpuhp/0			

b) htop

```
abdullah@abdullah-VirtualBox: ~
                                                                               File Edit View Search Terminal Help
                                         Tasks: 164, 497 thr; 1 running
 CPU[ |
                                 3.2%
 Mem[||||||||||||||||||1.48G/1.95G]
                                         Load average: 0.10 0.52 0.62
                           198M/2.00G]
                                         Uptime: 00:15:23
 Swp [
 PID USER
                PRI
                          VIRT
                                       SHR S CPU% MEM%
                                                          TIME+
                                                                 Command
1229 abdullah
                 20
                      0 2951M
                                366M 74164 S
                                                         1:12.05 /usr/bin/gnome-sh
                                               1.3
                                                   18.4
1097 abdullah
                 20
                         493M 99744 51036 S
                                               0.0
                                                    4.9
                                                         0:15.49 /usr/lib/xorg/Xor
2522 abdullah
                 20
                      0 41028
                                4476
                                      3668 R
                                               3.2
                                                    0.2
                                                         0:00.31 htop
1102 abdullah
                 20
                         493M 99744 51036 S
                                               0.0
                                                    4.9
                                                         0:01.57 /usr/lib/xorg/Xor
                      0
                                                         0:01.58 nautilus-desktop
1442 abdullah
                 20
                         982M 37968 24596 S
                                               0.0
                                                    1.9
1211 abdullah
                                5404
                                      4692 S
                                                         0:00.22 /usr/lib/at-spi2-
                 20
                         215M
                                               0.0
                                                    0.3
                                      2224 S
 759 mysql
                 20
                      0 1134M 13708
                                               0.0
                                                    0.7
                                                         0:01.12 /usr/sbin/mysqld
                                                         0:00.29 /usr/lib/gnome-te
2504 abdullah
                 20
                         780M 34424 25740 S
                                               0.0
                                                    1.7
   1 root
                 20
                                6488
                                      4924 S
                                               0.0
                                                    0.3
                                                         0:02.20 /sbin/init splash
 219 root
                 19
                        95260
                                9864
                                      9212 S
                                               0.0
                                                    0.5
                                                         0:00.59 /lib/systemd/syst
 245 root
                 20
                      0 47484
                                2260
                                      2116 S
                                               0.0
                                                    0.1
                                                         0:00.72 /lib/systemd/syst
 428 systemd-r
                 20
                      0 71036
                                3788
                                      3272 S
                                               0.0
                                                    0.2
                                                         0:00.22 /lib/systemd/syst
 483 systemd-t
                                1076
                                      1076 S
                                                         0:00.00 /lib/systemd/syst
                 20
                      0
                         142M
                                               0.0
                                                    0.1
 429 systemd-t
                 20
                      0
                         142M
                                1076
                                      1076 S
                                               0.0
                                                    0.1
                                                         0:00.08 /lib/systemd/syst
                                                    0.2
 562 messagebu
                 20
                                4608
                                      2872 S
                                                         0:00.91 /usr/bin/dbus-dae
                      0 51612
                                               0.0
                                      4924 S
 726 root
                 20
                      0
                         173M
                                4924
                                               0.0
                                                    0.2
                                                         0:00.00 /usr/bin/python3
 564 root
                 20
                      0
                         173M
                                4924
                                      4924 S
                                               0.0
                                                    0.2
                                                         0:00.37 /usr/bin/python3
       F2Setup F3SearchF4FilterF5Tree
                                         F6SortByF7Nice -F8Nice +F9Kill F10Quit
```

```
abdullah@abdullah-VirtualBox:~

File Edit View Search Terminal Help

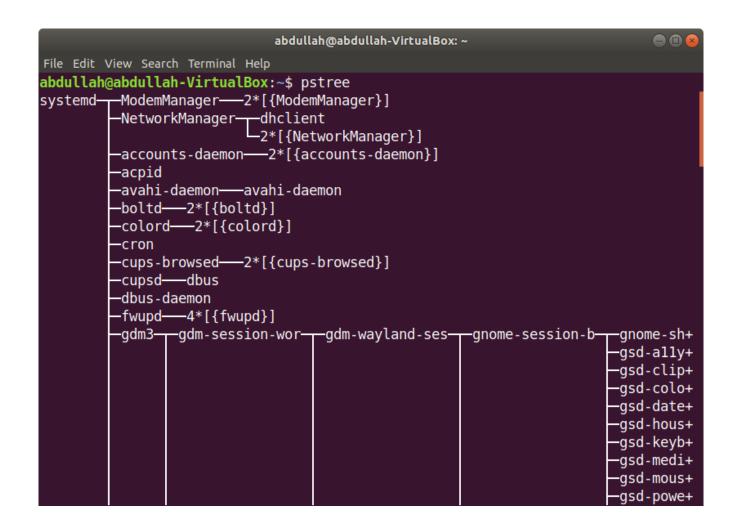
abdullah@abdullah-VirtualBox:~$ ps

PID TTY TIME CMD

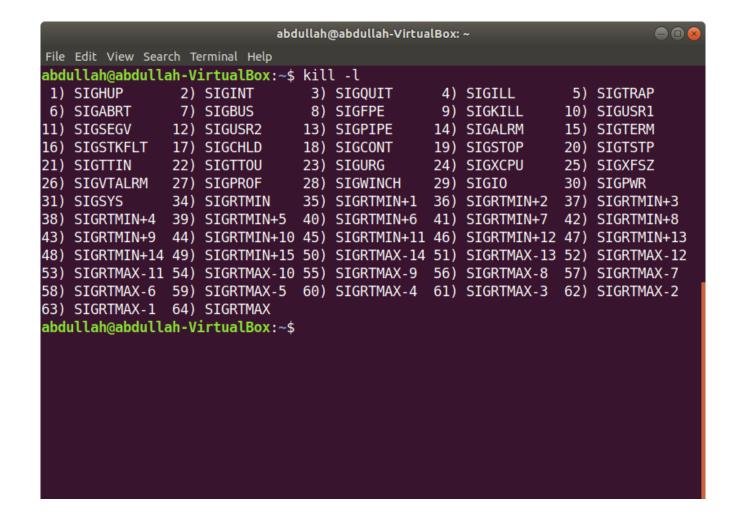
2591 pts/0 00:00:00 bash
2623 pts/0 00:00:00 ps

abdullah@abdullah-VirtualBox:~$ |
```

d) pstree



e) kill -l



f) killall

```
abdullah@abdullah-VirtualBox:~

File Edit View Search Terminal Help

abdullah@abdullah-VirtualBox:~$ killall firefox

abdullah@abdullah-VirtualBox:~$

abdullah@abdullah-VirtualBox:~$
```

g) pkill

```
abdullah@abdullah-VirtualBox:~

File Edit View Search Terminal Help

abdullah@abdullah-VirtualBox:~$ pkill fire

abdullah@abdullah-VirtualBox:~$ |
```

h) xkill

```
abdullah@abdullah-VirtualBox:~

File Edit View Search Terminal Help

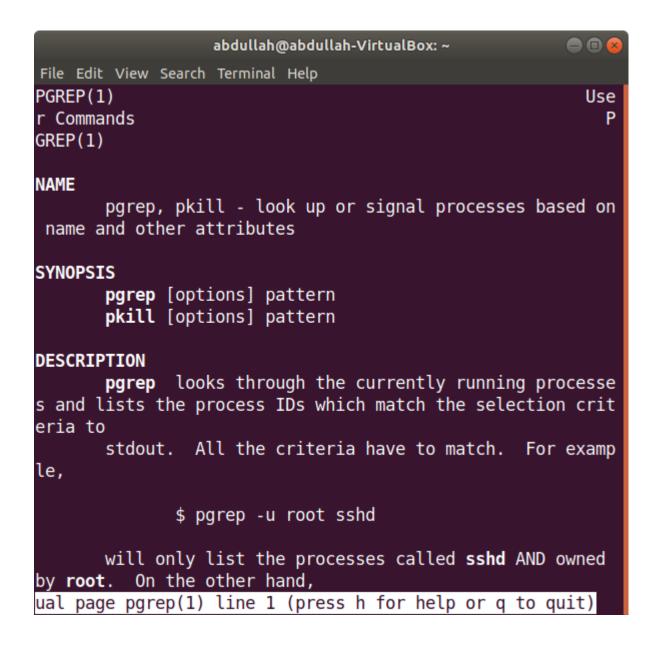
abdullah@abdullah-VirtualBox:~$ xkill

Select the window whose client you wish to kill with button 1....
abdullah@abdullah-VirtualBox:~$ |
```

I) ps-l and renice

```
abdullah@abdullah-VirtualBox: ~
File Edit View Search Terminal Help
abdullah@abdullah-VirtualBox:~$ ps -l
F S UID
           PID PPID C PRI NI ADDR SZ WCHAN TTY
   TIME CMD
0 S 1000 4483 4473 0 90 10 - 7505 wait
                                              pts/0
                                                       0
0:00:00 bash
4 R 1000 4822 4483 0 90 10 - 9088 -
                                              pts/0
                                                       0
0:00:00 ps
abdullah@abdullah-VirtualBox:~$ renice -n 10 4483
4483 (process ID) old priority 10, new priority 10
abdullah@abdullah-VirtualBox:~$
```

j) pgrep



Discussion: A Program does nothing unless its instructions are executed by a CPU. A program in execution is called a process. In order to accomplish its task, process needs the computer resources.

There may exist more than one process in the system which may require the same resource at the same time. Therefore, the operating system has to manage all the processes and the resources in a convenient and efficient way.

Some resources may need to be executed by one process at one time to maintain the consistency otherwise the system can become inconsistent and deadlock may occur.