

# CSE 438/598: Embedded Systems Programming

## EVENT HANDLING AND SIGNALING

Report

Assignment 5

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## INTRODUCTION

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Assignment Statement: In vxWorks' Kernel API Reference Manual, it is stated that "If a task is pended (for instance, by waiting for a semaphore to become available) and a signal is sent to the task for which the task has a handler installed, then the handler will run before the semaphore is taken. When the handler returns, the task will go back to being pended (waiting for the semaphore). If there was a timeout used for the pend, then the original value will be used again when the task returns from the signal handler and goes back to being pended. If the handler alters the execution path, via a call to `longjmp( )` for example, and does not return then the task does not go back to being pended."

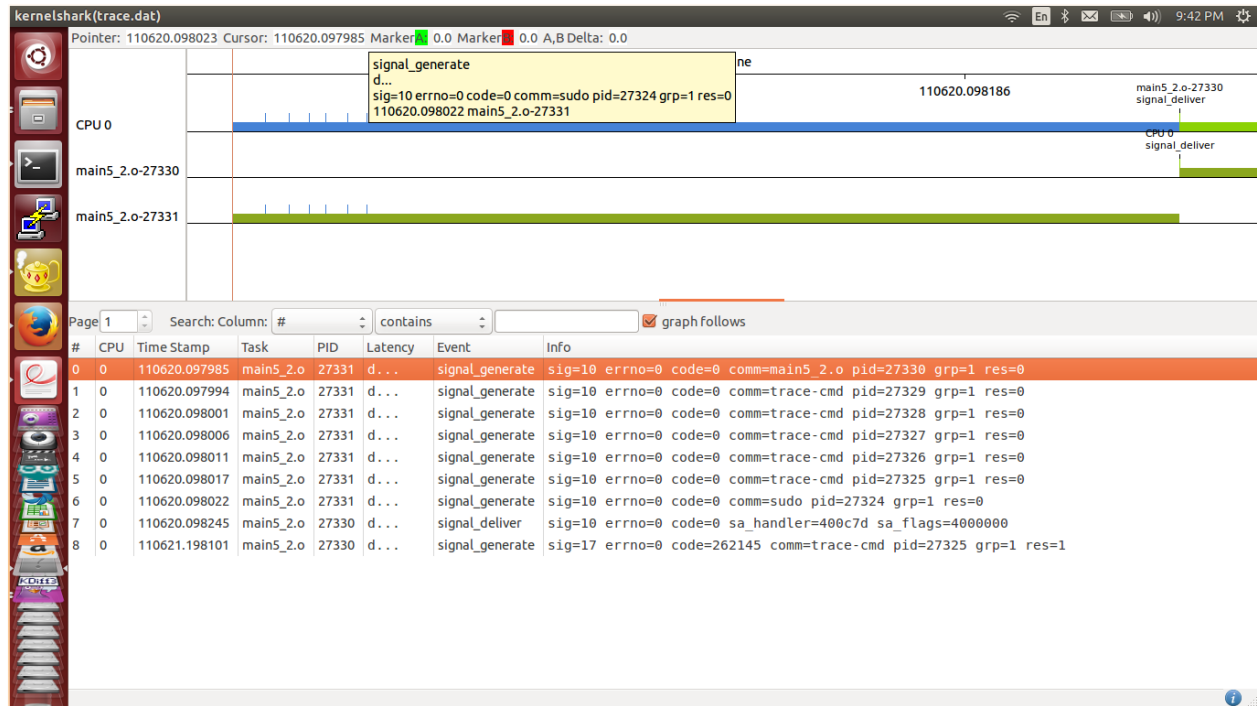
This description of the signal delivery mechanism is certainly OS dependent. In task 2 of the assignment, a program is developed to test what the Linux's signal facility does precisely and to show the time that a signal handler associated to a thread gets executed in the following four conditions:

- a. The thread is running.
- b. The thread is runnable (i.e. the running thread has a higher priority).
- c. The thread is blocked by a semaphore (i.e. `sema_wait()` is called) or a file IO (e.g., `read`).
- d. The thread is delayed (i.e., `nanosleep()` is called).

# PART 1: THE THREAD IS RUNNING

## 2.1 IMAGE

Command: `sudo trace-cmd record -e signal taskset -c 0 ./main5_2.o`



## 2.2 ANALYSIS

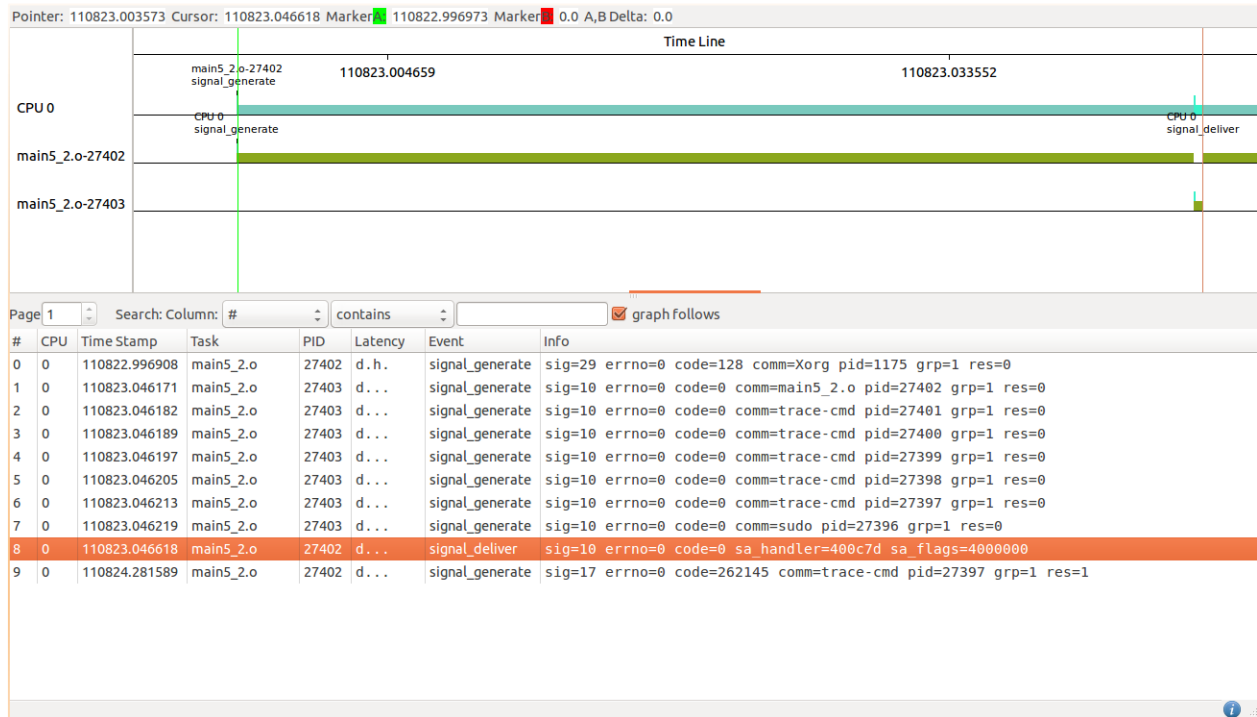
In part 1 of the assignment, the main thread creates one thread. One thread is created to generate signal. A signal is generated by the thread, by using the `kill()` function. This will call the signal handler.

As it can be seen from the figure, the `signal_generate` was at time stamp 110620.097985 and the signal was delivered at 110620.098245. Time difference from delivery to generation is 260uS.

## PART 2: THE THREAD IS RUNNABLE

### 3.1 IMAGE

Command: `sudo trace-cmd record -e signal taskset -c 0 ./main5_2.o`



### 3.2 ANALYSIS

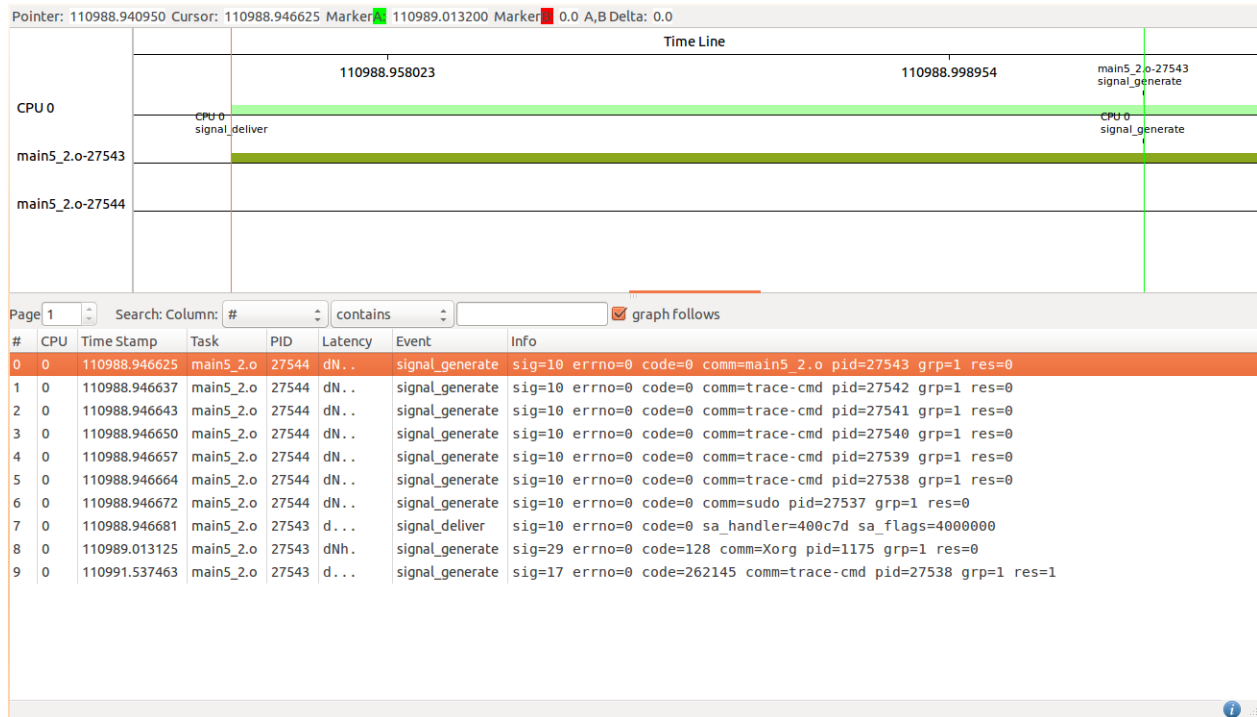
In part 1 of the assignment, the main thread creates one thread. One thread is created to generate signal. A signal is generated by the thread, by using the kill() function. This will call the signal handler.

As it can be seen from the figure, the signal\_generate was at time stamp 110823.046171 and the signal was delivered at 110823.046618. Time difference from delivery to generation is 447uS.

## PART 3: THE THREAD IS BLOCKED BY A SEMAPHORE

### 4.1 IMAGE

Command: `sudo trace-cmd record -e signal taskset -c 0 ./main5_2.o`



### 4.2 ANALYSIS

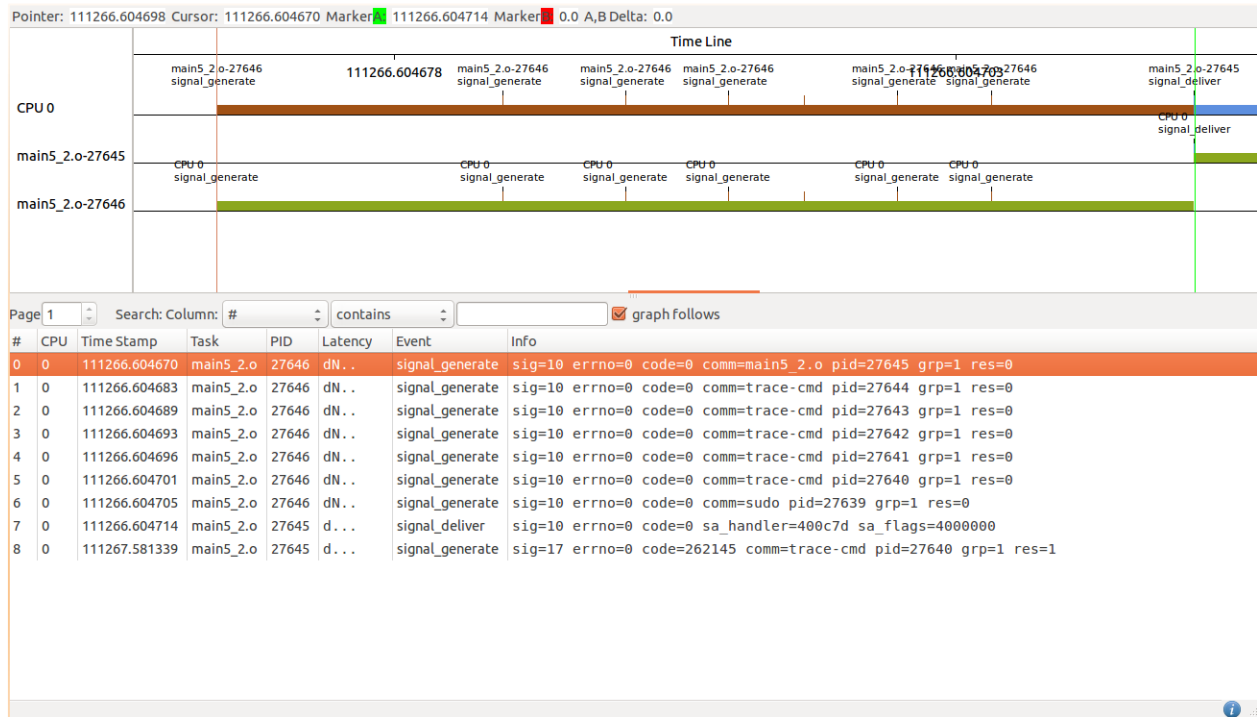
In this part of the assignment, main thread makes use of the semaphore. It attempts to get a semaphore lock, which is not free. So it gets blocked. It is in blocking state until the signal is generated by another thread is delivered to it, to interrupt it. After the signal has been delivered to the main thread, the thread continues to execute even before acquiring the lock for the same.

As it can be seen from the figure that, The signal was generated at 110988.946625 and was delivered to the main thread at 110988.986681. The time between the signal delivered after it was generated is 56uS.

## PART4: THE THREAD IS DELAYED

### 5.1 IMAGE

Command: `sudo trace-cmd record -e signal taskset -c 0 ./main5_2.o`



### 5.2 ANALYSIS

In part 4 of the assignment, the signal is generated by the thread and delivered to main thread. The main has delayed itself by going into sleep by calling `nanosleep()`. The main thread wakes up as soon as it receives interrupt signal generated by the thread. This signal after being delivered to main thread, leaves the main thread in the awake conditions and the threads sleep for the remaining time and then starts to execute the code.

From the figure it can be seen that, the signal was generated at 111266.604670 and it was delivered to the main thread at 111266.604714. The delay in signal being generated to being delivered is 44uS.