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/*
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SHARING MEMORY BETWEEN PROCESSES

In this example, we show how two processes can share a common portion of the memory. Recall that when a process forks, the new child process has an identical copy of the variables of the parent process. After fork the parent and child can update their own copies of the variables in their own way, since they don't actually share the variable. Here we show how they can share memory, so that when one updates it, the other can see the change.

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#include <stdio.h>
#include <sys/ipc.h>
#include <sys/shm.h>    /* This file is necessary for using shared
                        memory constructs
                        */
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```
main()
{
    int shmid, status;
    int *a, *b;
    int i;

    /*
       The operating system keeps track of the set of shared memory
       segments. In order to acquire shared memory, we must first
       request the shared memory from the OS using the shmget()
       system call. The second parameter specifies the number of
       bytes of memory requested. shmget() returns a shared memory
       identifier (SHMID) which is an integer. Refer to the online
       man pages for details on the other two parameters of shmget()
    */
    shmid = shmget(IPC_PRIVATE, 2*sizeof(int), 0777|IPC_CREAT);
    /* We request an array of two integers */

    /*
       After forking, the parent and child must "attach" the shared
       memory to its local data segment. This is done by the shmat()
       system call. shmat() takes the SHMID of the shared memory
       segment as input parameter and returns the address at which
       the segment has been attached. Thus shmat() returns a char
       pointer.
    */
    if (fork() == 0) {

        /* Child Process */

        /* shmat() returns a char pointer which is typecast here
           to int and the address is stored in the int pointer b. */
        b = (int *) shmat(shmid, 0, 0);
    }
}
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        for( i=0; i< 10; i++) {
            sleep(1);
            printf("\t\t\t Child reads: %d,%d\n",b[0],b[1]);
        }
        /* each process should "detach" itself from the
           shared memory after it is used */

        shmdt(b);
    }
    else {

        /* Parent Process */

        /* shmat() returns a char pointer which is typecast here
           to int and the address is stored in the int pointer a.
           Thus the memory locations a[0] and a[1] of the parent
           are the same as the memory locations b[0] and b[1] of
           the parent, since the memory is shared.
        */
        a = (int *) shmat(shmid, 0, 0);

        a[0] = 0; a[1] = 1;
        for( i=0; i< 10; i++) {
            sleep(1);
            a[0] = a[0] + a[1];
            a[1] = a[0] + a[1];
            printf("Parent writes: %d,%d\n",a[0],a[1]);
        }
        wait(&status);

        /* each process should "detach" itself from the
           shared memory after it is used */

        shmdt(a);

        /* Child has exited, so parent process should delete
           the created shared memory. Unlike attach and detach,
           which is to be done for each process separately,
           deleting the shared memory has to be done by only
           one process after making sure that no one else
           will be using it
        */

        shmctl(shmid, IPC_RMID, 0);
    }
}

```