

# Objective

To simulate process creation and destruction when implemented with linked lists.

## Specification

The program creates/destroys child processes based on choosing from a menu of choices, where each choice calls the appropriate procedure:

- 1) Enter parameters
- 2) Create a new child process
- 3) Destroy all descendants of a process
- 4) Quit program and free memory

## Assignment

Create a process creation hierarchy as a dynamic array of length  $n$  which references the process control blocks (PCBs), indexed 0 to  $n - 1$ .

Each PCB is a structure consisting of two fields:

- **parent:** a PCB index corresponding to the process' creator
- **children:** a pointer to a linked list, where each node contains the PCB index of one child process and a link to the next child in the list

The necessary functions are simplified as follows:

**create()** Prompts for the parent process PCB[ $p$ ]. The function creates a new child process PCB[ $q$ ] of process PCB[ $p$ ] by:

- allocating a free PCB[ $q$ ]
- recording the parent's index  $p$  in PCB[ $q$ ]
- initializing the list of children of PCB[ $q$ ] as empty (NULL)
- creating a new link containing the child's index  $q$  and appending it to the linked list of PCB[ $p$ ]

**destroy()** Prompts for the parent process PCB[ $p$ ]. The function recursively destroys all descendant processes of PCB[ $p$ ] by performing the following tasks:

- For each element  $q$  on the linked list of children of PCB[ $p$ ]:
  - call `destroy(q)` recursively
  - free PCB[ $q$ ]
  - deallocate the element  $q$  from the linked list

## What NOT to do

- Do **not** modify the choice values (1,2,3,4) or input characters and then try to convert them to integers.
- Do **not** submit alternate versions of this assignment from external sites or previous semesters.

## What to turn in

- The source code as a file uploaded to Canvas by the deadline.
- Make sure your code compiles with the following online C compiler before submitting:  
[https://www.onlinegdb.com/online\\_c\\_compiler](https://www.onlinegdb.com/online_c_compiler)

## Sample Output

Process creation and destruction

---

- 1) Enter parameters
- 2) Create a new child process
- 3) Destroy all descendants of a process
- 4) Quit program and free memory

Enter selection: 1

Enter maximum number of processes: 5

Process creation and destruction

---

- 1) Enter parameters
- 2) Create a new child process
- 3) Destroy all descendants of a process
- 4) Quit program and free memory

Enter selection: 2

Enter the parent process index: 0

PCB[0] is the parent of: PCB[1]

Process creation and destruction

---

- 1) Enter parameters
- 2) Create a new child process

- 3) Destroy all descendants of a process
- 4) Quit program and free memory

Enter selection: 2

Enter the parent process index: 0

PCB[0] is the parent of: PCB[1] PCB[2]

Process creation and destruction

---

- 1) Enter parameters
- 2) Create a new child process
- 3) Destroy all descendants of a process
- 4) Quit program and free memory

Enter selection: 2

Enter the parent process index: 2

PCB[0] is the parent of: PCB[1] PCB[2]

PCB[2] is the parent of: PCB[3]

Process creation and destruction

---

- 1) Enter parameters
- 2) Create a new child process
- 3) Destroy all descendants of a process
- 4) Quit program and free memory

Enter selection: 2

Enter the parent process index: 0

PCB[0] is the parent of: PCB[1] PCB[2] PCB[4]

PCB[2] is the parent of: PCB[3]

Process creation and destruction

---

- 1) Enter parameters
- 2) Create a new child process
- 3) Destroy all descendants of a process
- 4) Quit program and free memory

Enter selection: 3

Enter the index of the process whose descendants are to be destroyed: 0

Process creation and destruction

- 
- 1) Enter parameters
  - 2) Create a new child process
  - 3) Destroy all descendants of a process
  - 4) Quit program and free memory

Enter selection: 4  
Quitting program...