Lec-02-1
Process and Process Management

Dr Syed Faisal Hasan and Dr. Hymie Latif
Computing and Information Technology
College of Enterprise and Development
Otago Polytechnic
Dunedin, New Zealand

Bachelor of Information Technology
IN616 – Operating Systems Concepts
Semester 1, 2020

Schedule

- Recap
- Processes

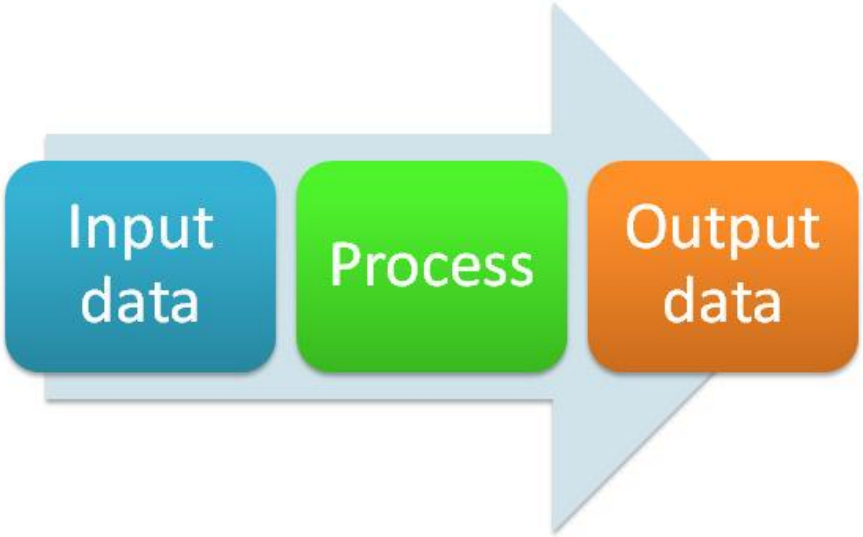
- Process Management

TOPIC:

Processes

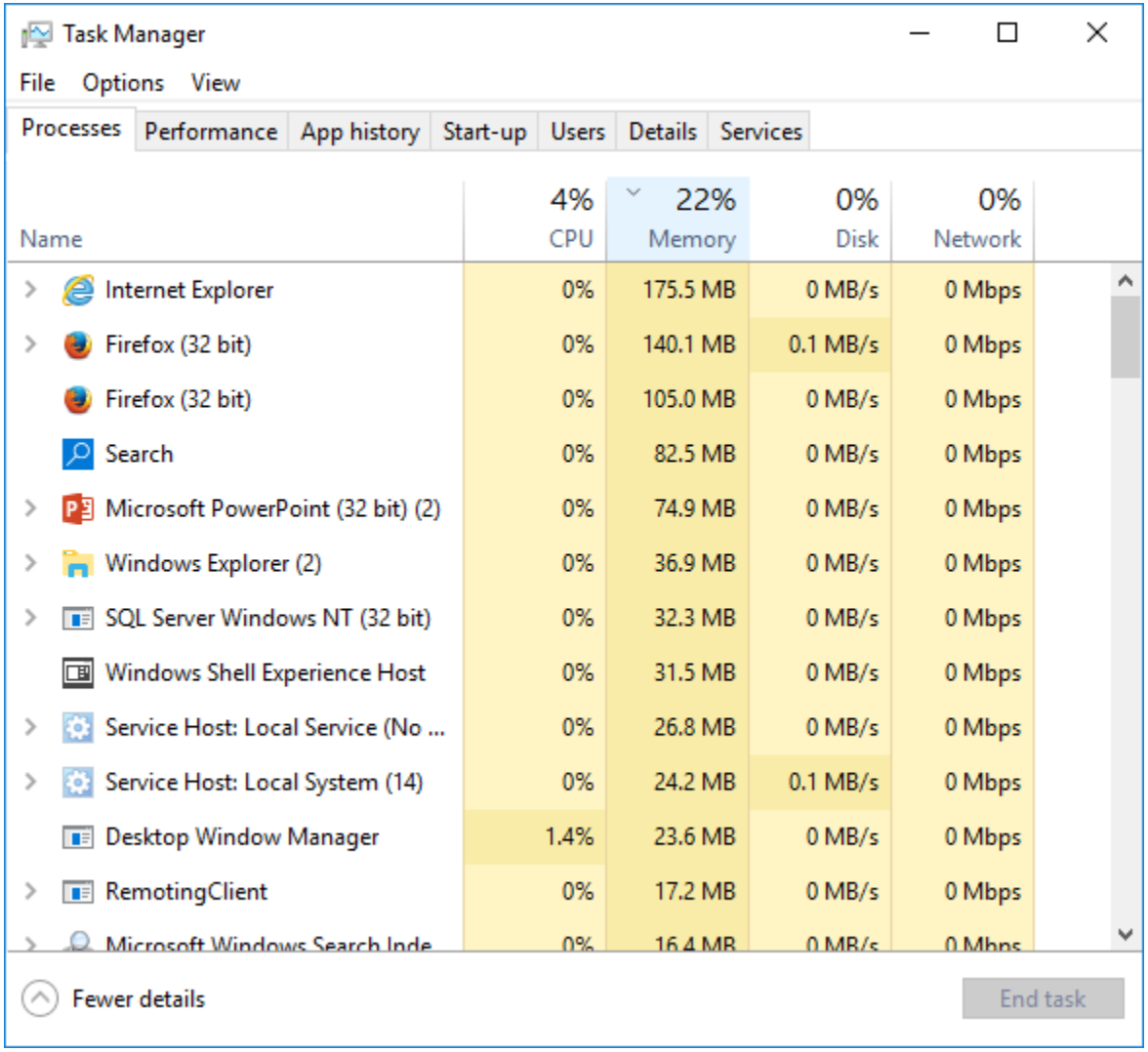
Processes

- ***"Instance of a computer program being executed"***
- ***"Program in execution"***



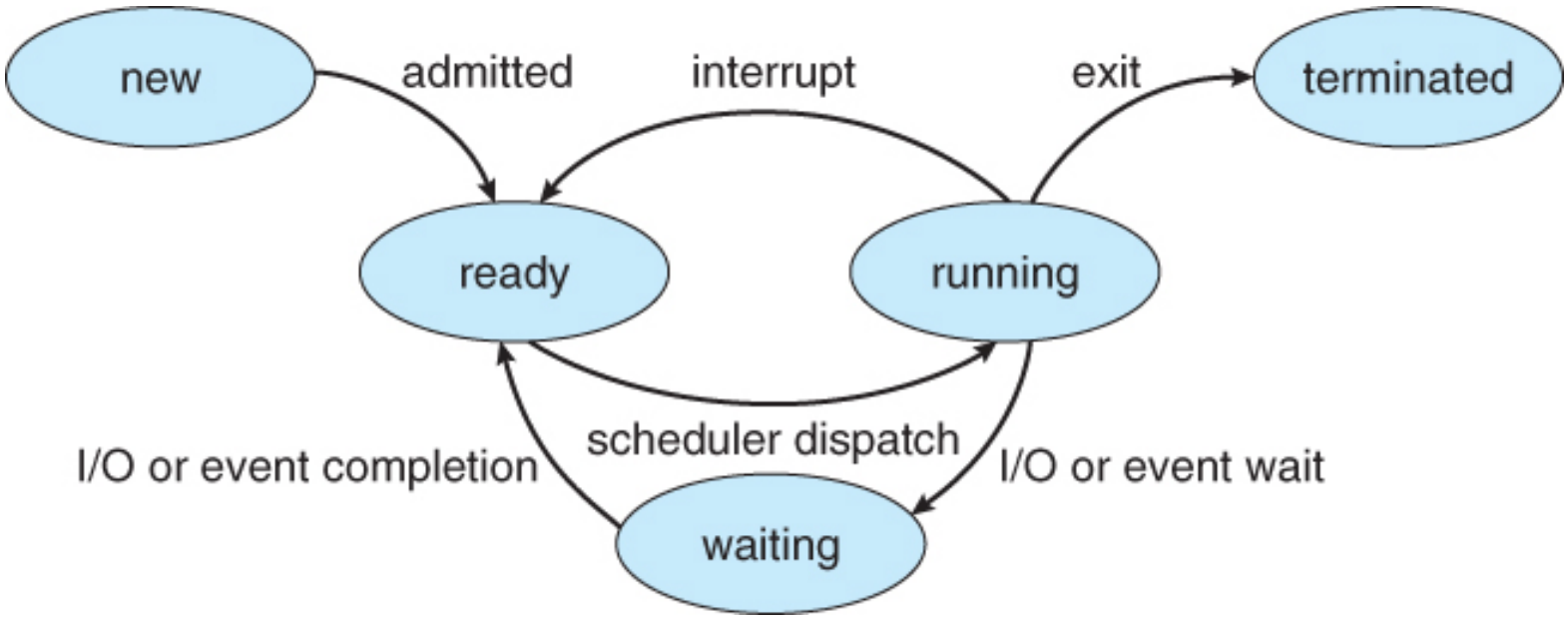
- Execution principles:
  - Program code loaded from disk to memory
  - Main method is called (not always!)
  - Program becomes a process

How we view processes



Processes: States

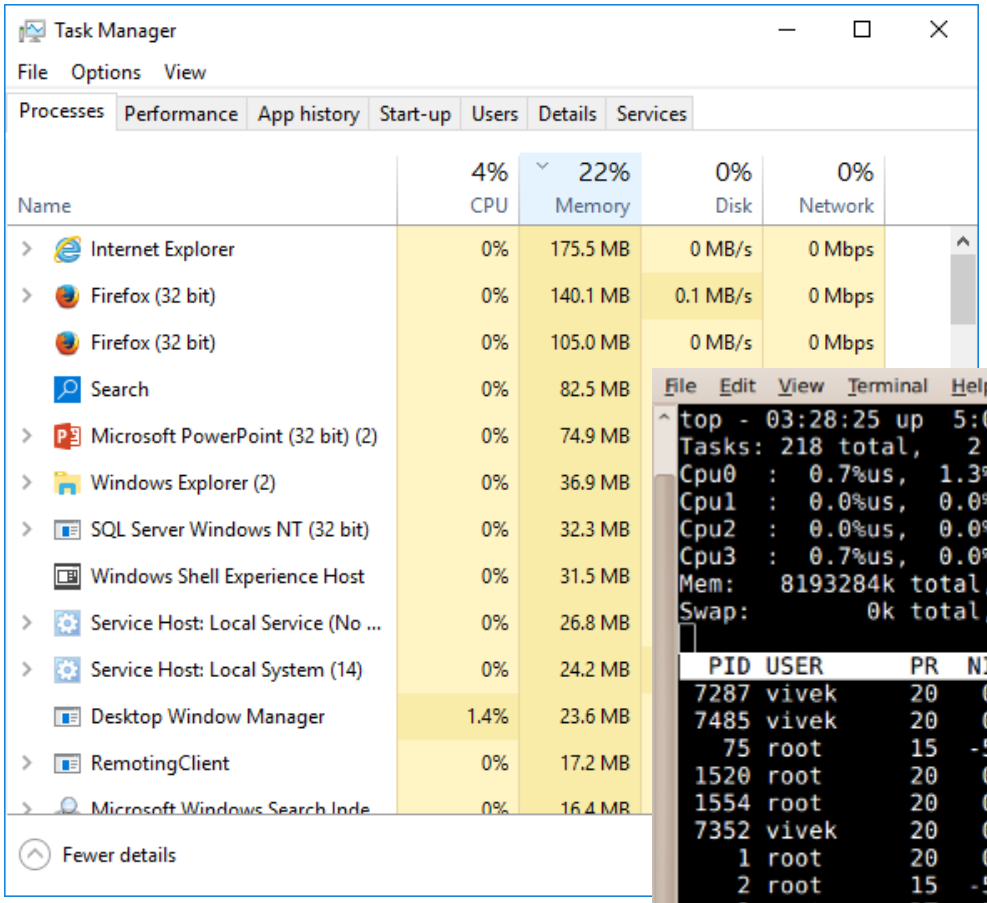
- As a program executes, it changes states

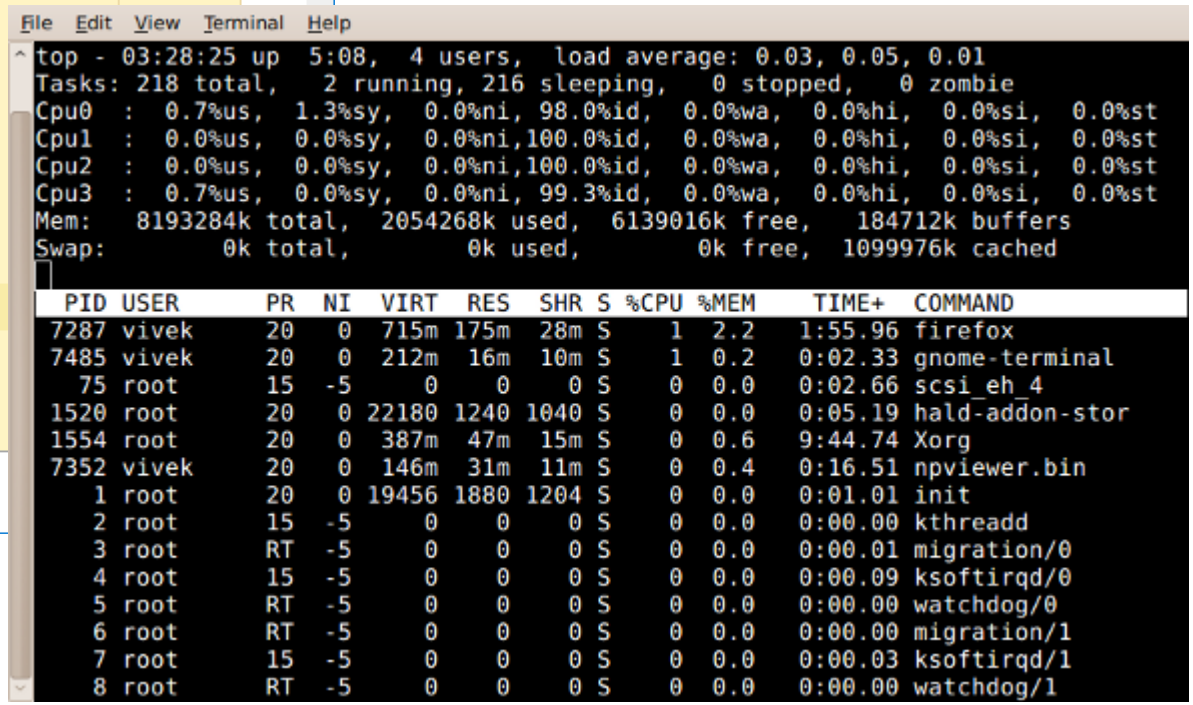


Processes: States (Examples)

- **New:** The process is being created
  - **Double click Firefox.exe, ./script.sh**
- **Running:** Instructions are being executed
  - **Java program in the main function, Bash script running**
- **Waiting:** The process is waiting for some event to occur
  - **wait(20), sleep 10, waiting for user input**
- **Ready:** The process is waiting to be assigned to processor
  - **Waiting for a scheduled event**
- **Terminated:** The process has finished execution
  - **exit 1, quit()**

Process Management





TOPIC:

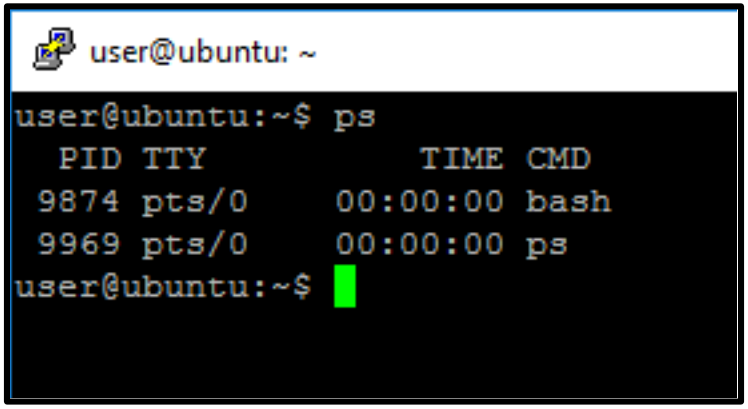
Process Management Tools

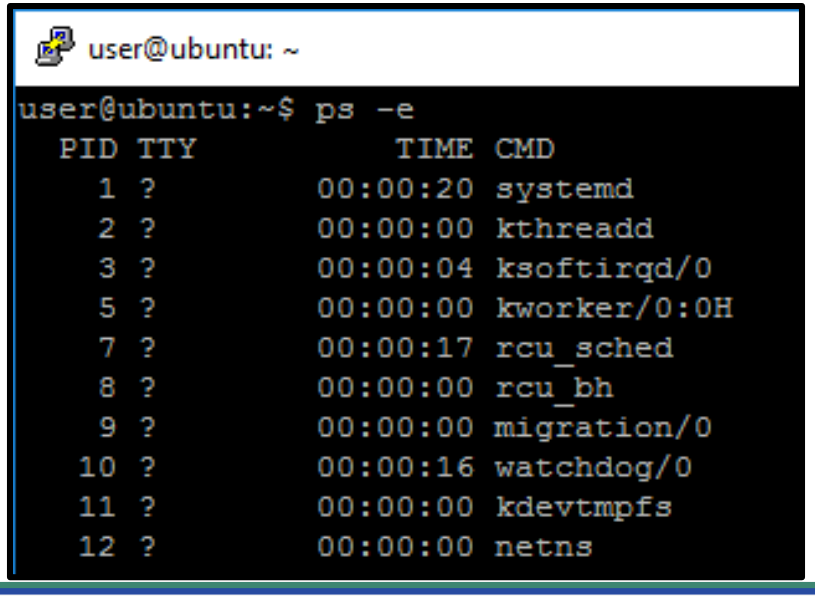
Process Management Tools

- **`ps`**
  - List a (snapshot) of processes
- **`pstree`**
  - Display a tree (snapshot) of processes
- **`top`**
  - Display processes and system information (dynamically)

ps

- Reports a snapshot of current processes
  - By default for the user who executed the command
- The list is not dynamic
  - Only reports processes when executed





`ps`: Useful arguments

`ps -e`

`ps -A`

– Display all processes (not just user's processes)

`ps -r`

– Display only running processes

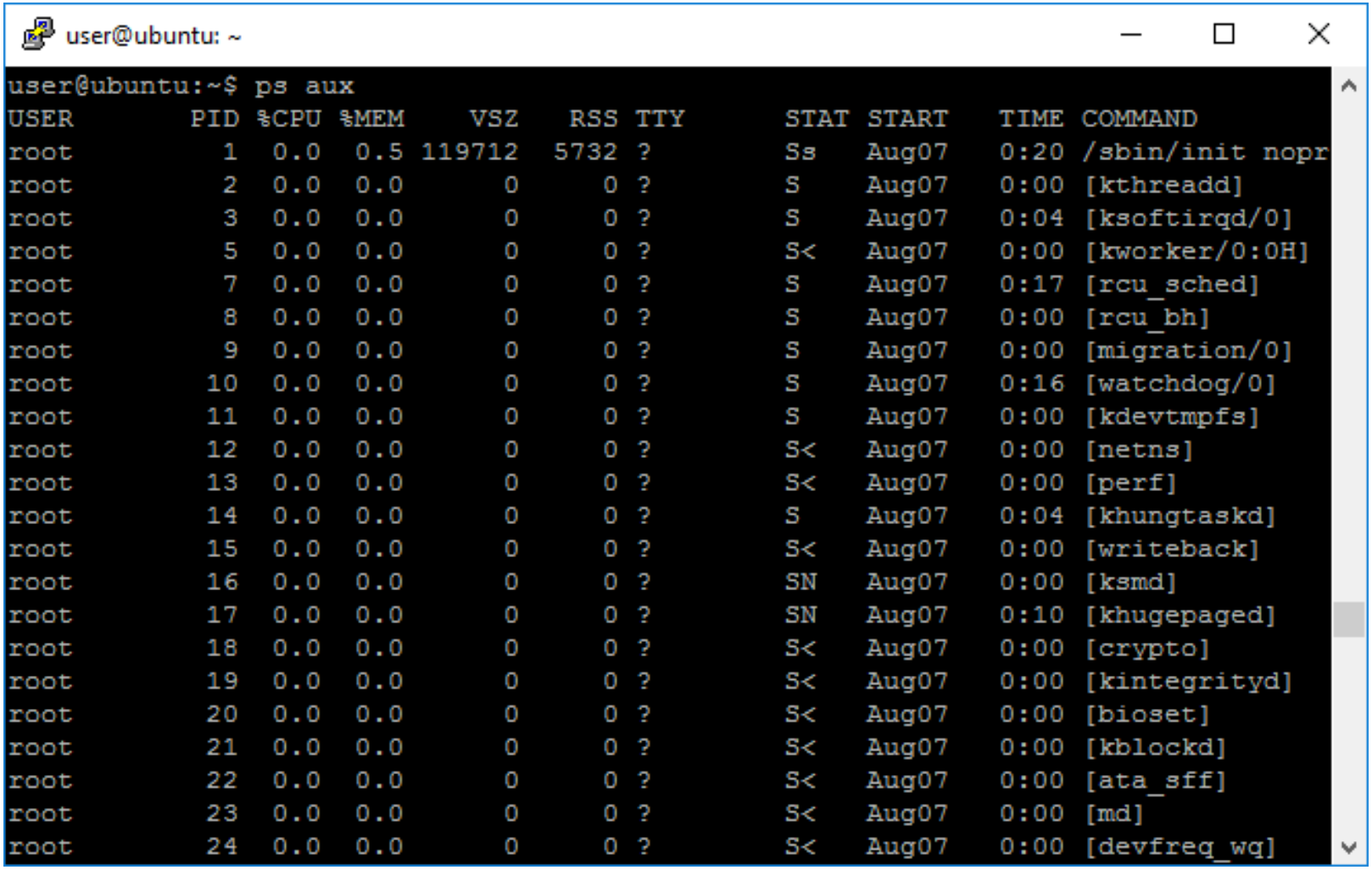
`ps -F`

– Display the full format

`ps -e | grep ssh`

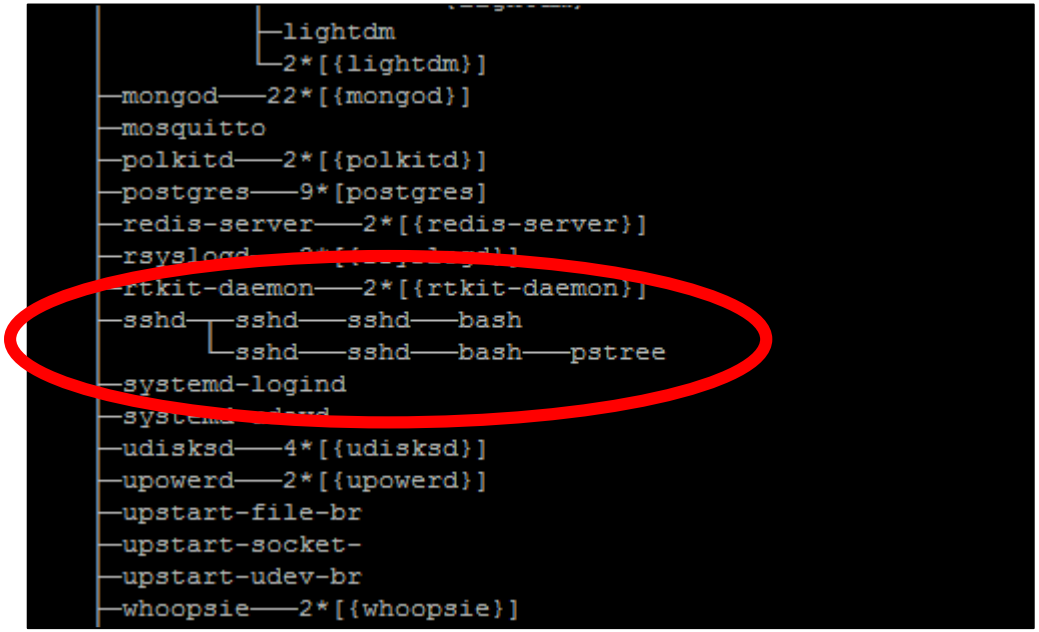
– Display only processes matching keyword (using grep)

ps: Full Format



pstree

- Displays a tree of processes (again, snapshot!)
- Visualise processes
- The list is not dynamic
  - Only reports processes when executed



`pstree`: Useful arguments

`pstree pid`

– Display all processes from a Process ID (PID)

`pstree student`

– Display all processes from a specific user

`pstree | less`

`pstree | more`

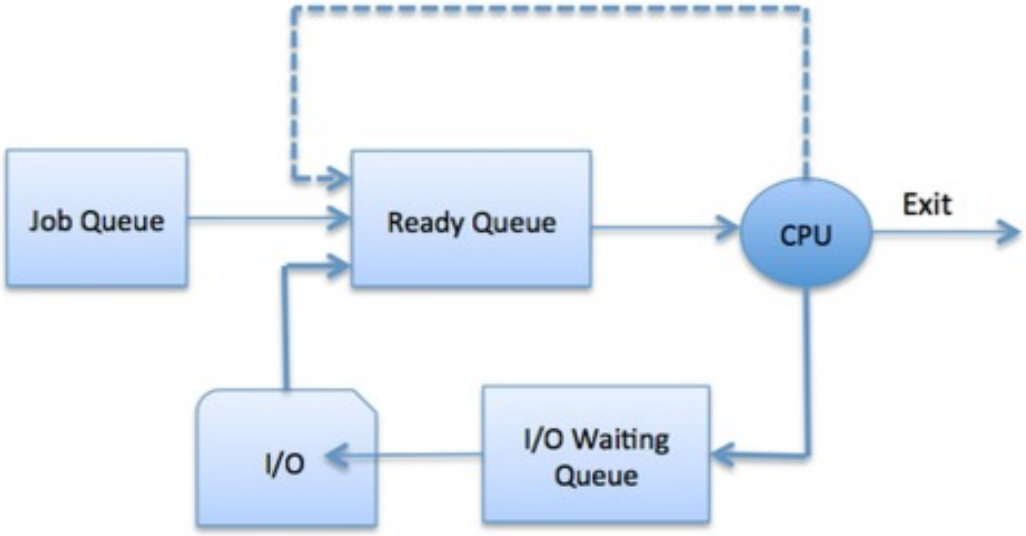
– Display the tree one page at a time

`pstree -p`

– Print the tree and include the PIDs

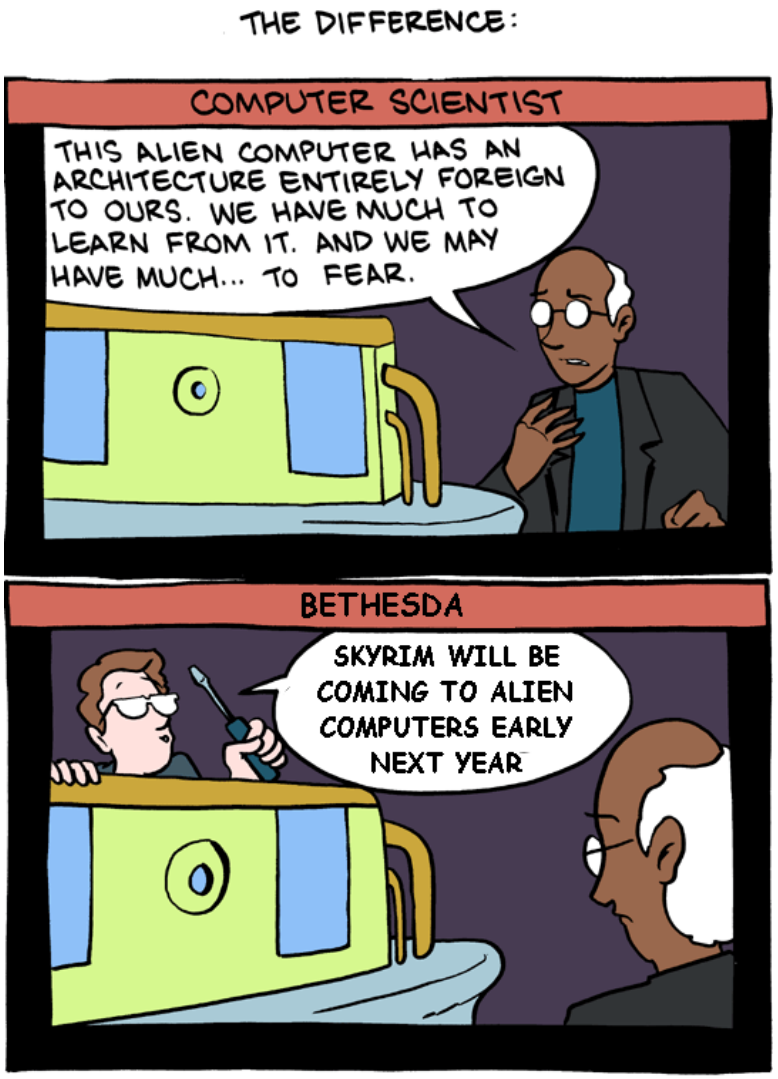
Process scheduling

- A manager that handles processes
  - Removes running processes
  - Selects another process to add
- Must have a strategy



Process Priorities

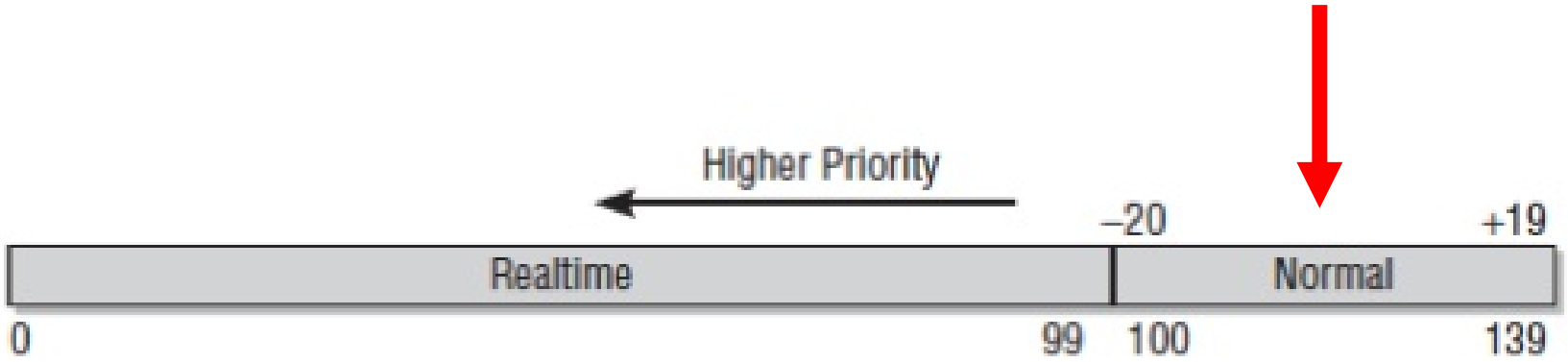
- Each process has a priority
  - How important is the process?
- Total priority range = 0 → 139
- Lower is higher?!?!
  - 0 is very important
  - 139 is not important at all
- 0 → 99 in the kernel
- 100 → 139 in user space



Process Priorities (user space)

- 100 → 139 in user space
  - Translated to:
- 0 → 39

- Default priority in userspace is 20

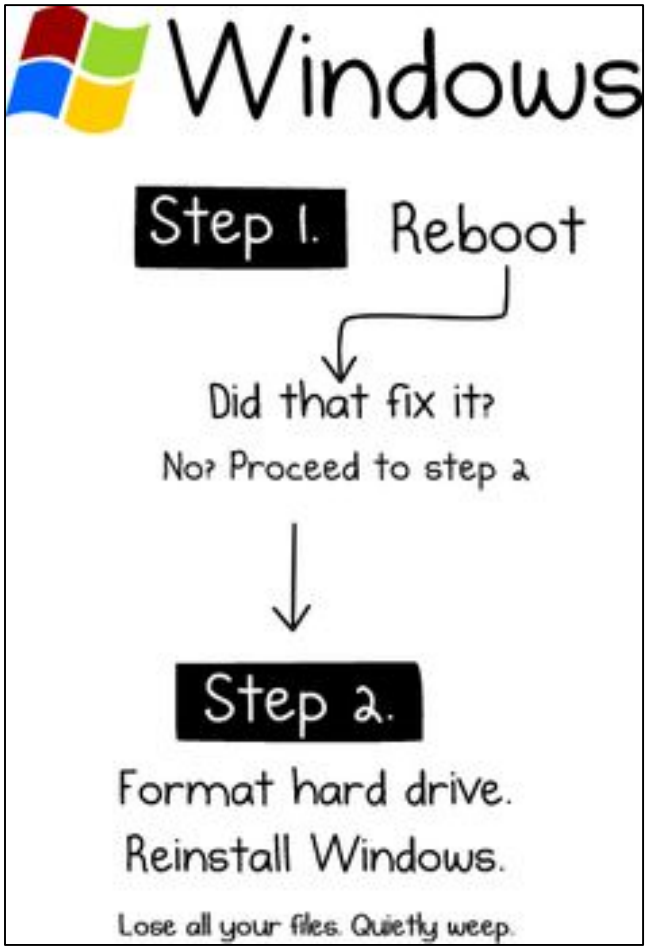


Nice Process Priorities

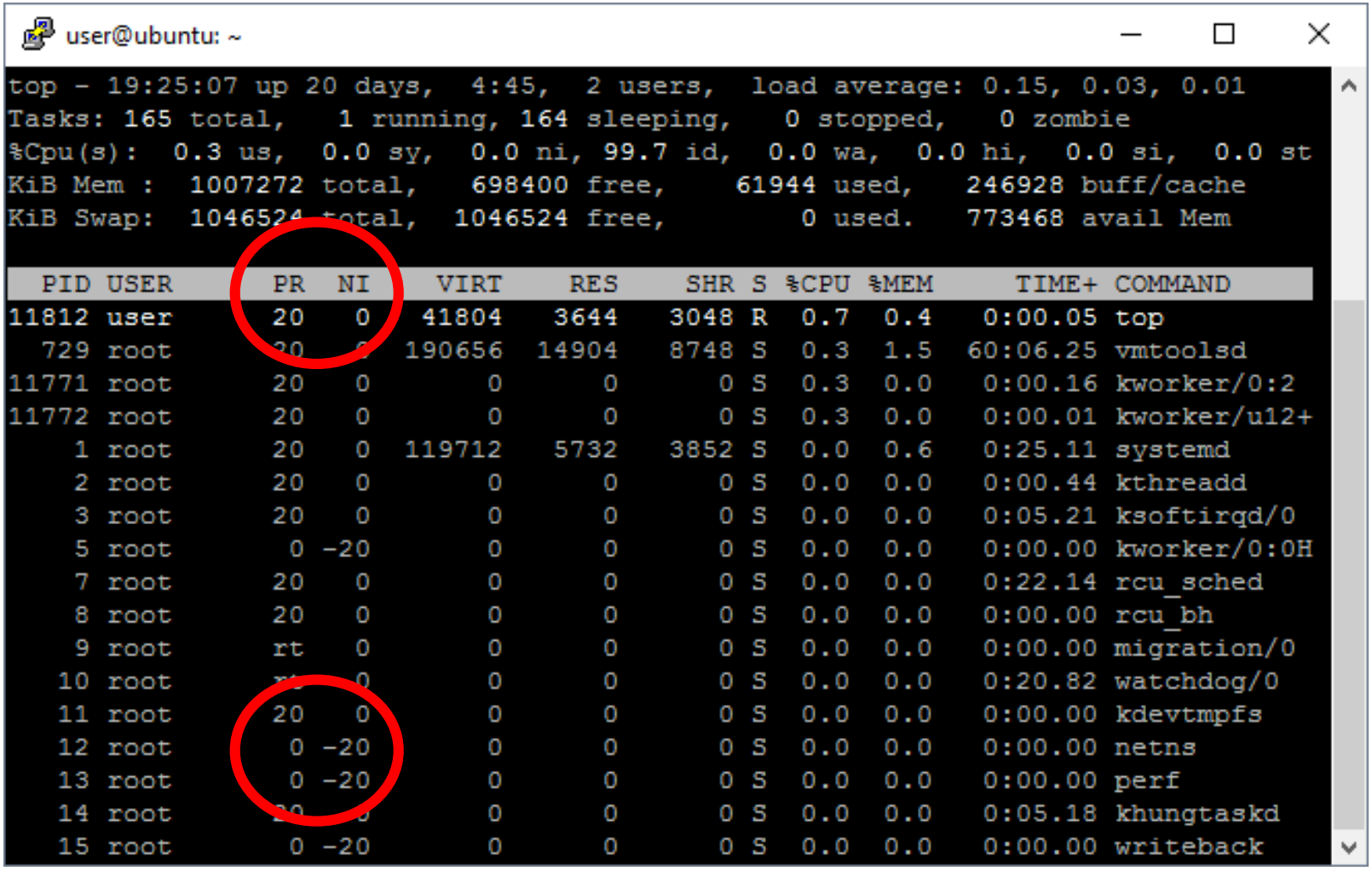
- Nice value?!
- Modify the priority of a process

- PR → Priority (default 20)
- NI → Nice value (-20 to +19)

- PR = Default Priority +/- Nice value

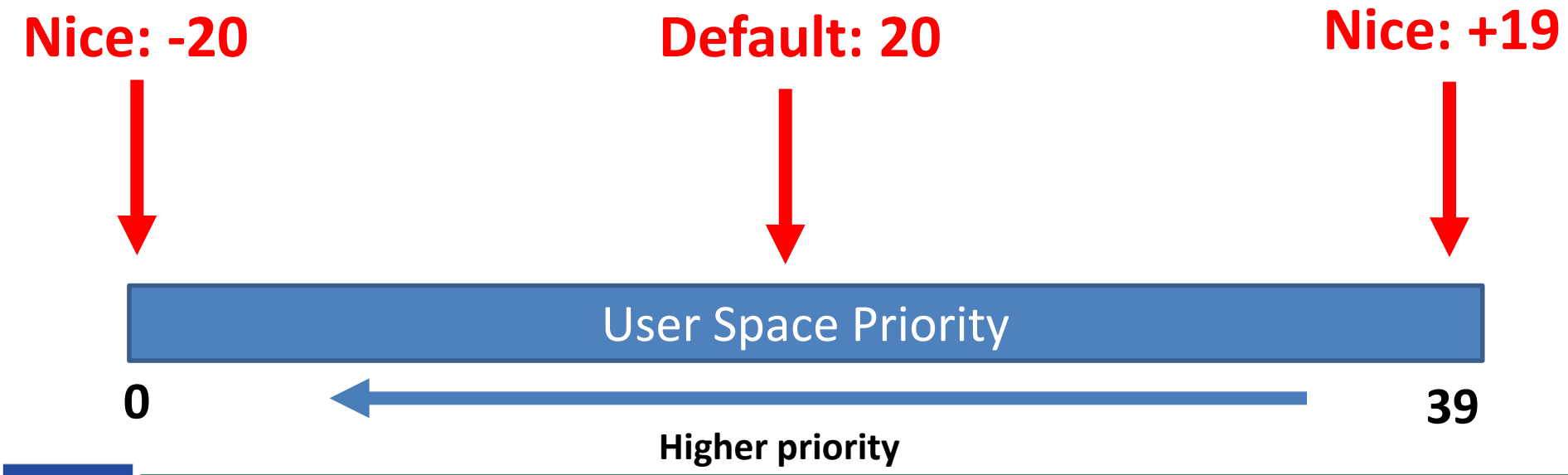


Process Priorities



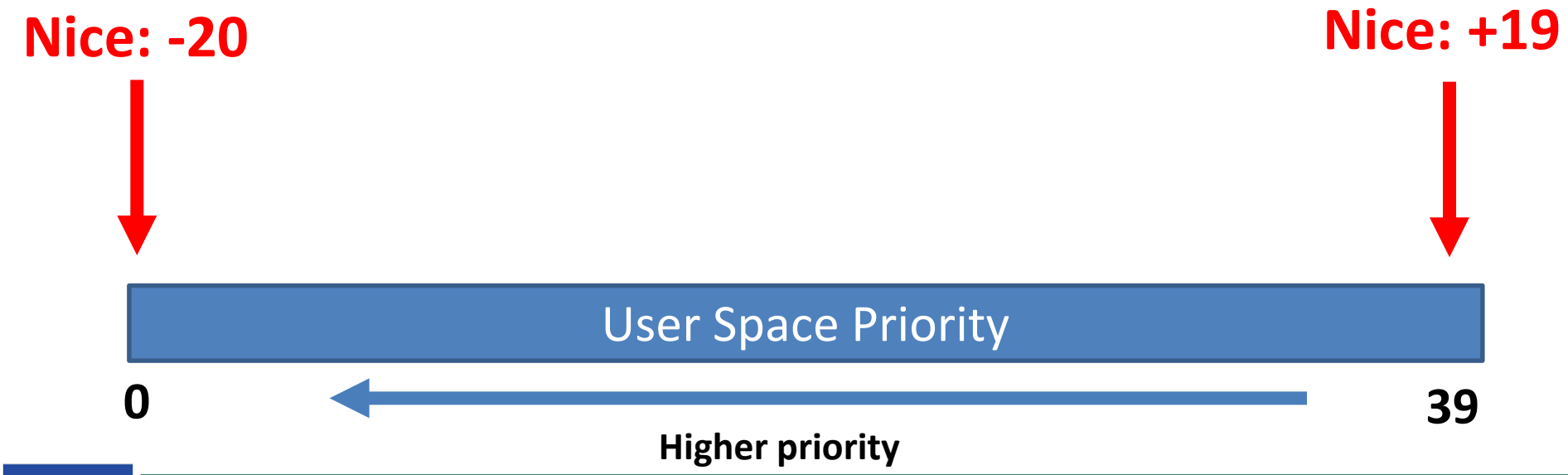
Nice Process Priorities

- PR = Default Priority +/- Nice value
- PR = 20 – 20
  - 0 has a higher priority
- PR = 20 + 19
  - 39 has a lower priority



Nice Process Priorities

- PR = Default Priority +/- Nice value
- PR = 20 – 20
  - 0 has a higher priority
- PR = 20 + 19
  - 39 has a lower priority



The `nice` command

- `nice -n <nice-value> <command>`
- `nice -n -20 ./script.sh`
- `nice -n 19 ./calc_pi.sh`

- OK, that's nice…
- But how can we adjust when a command is running?

The **renice** command

- **renice -n <nice value> <PID>**

- **ps –a; top** (to get PID)
- **renice -n 19 3849**

- FYI – users can only lower priorities!
- **sudo** is needed to increase priority

Lab-09-1 – Start

- **TOPICS:**
- **Test out process tools**
- **Create a script to learn about processes**
- **Also, running processes in the background**

TOPIC:

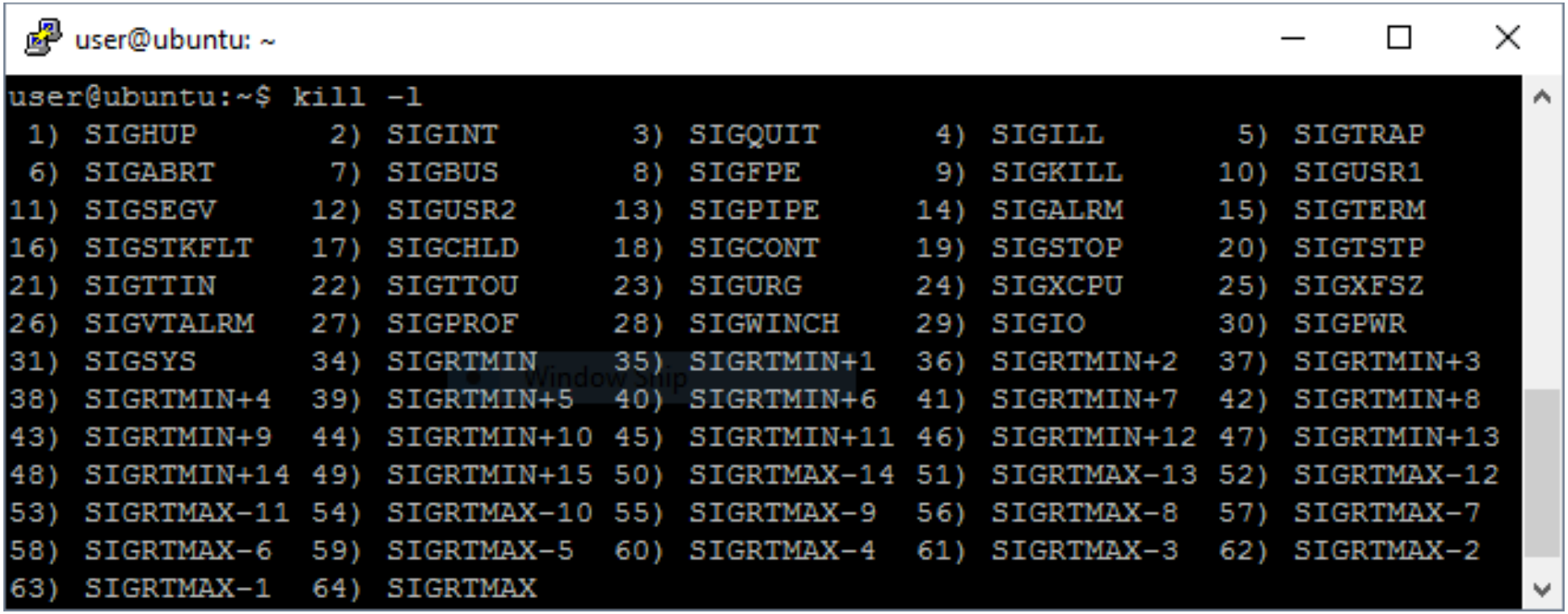
Process Communication and Signals

Process Communication

- Process communication relies on ***signals***
- Signals are used to notify a process of an event
- Therefore, processes can detect signals
- Processes can also send signals
  - Self-termination
  - Clean-up and exit

Signals in Linux

- Total of 64 different signals, not many are useful
  - Output of: **`kill -l`**

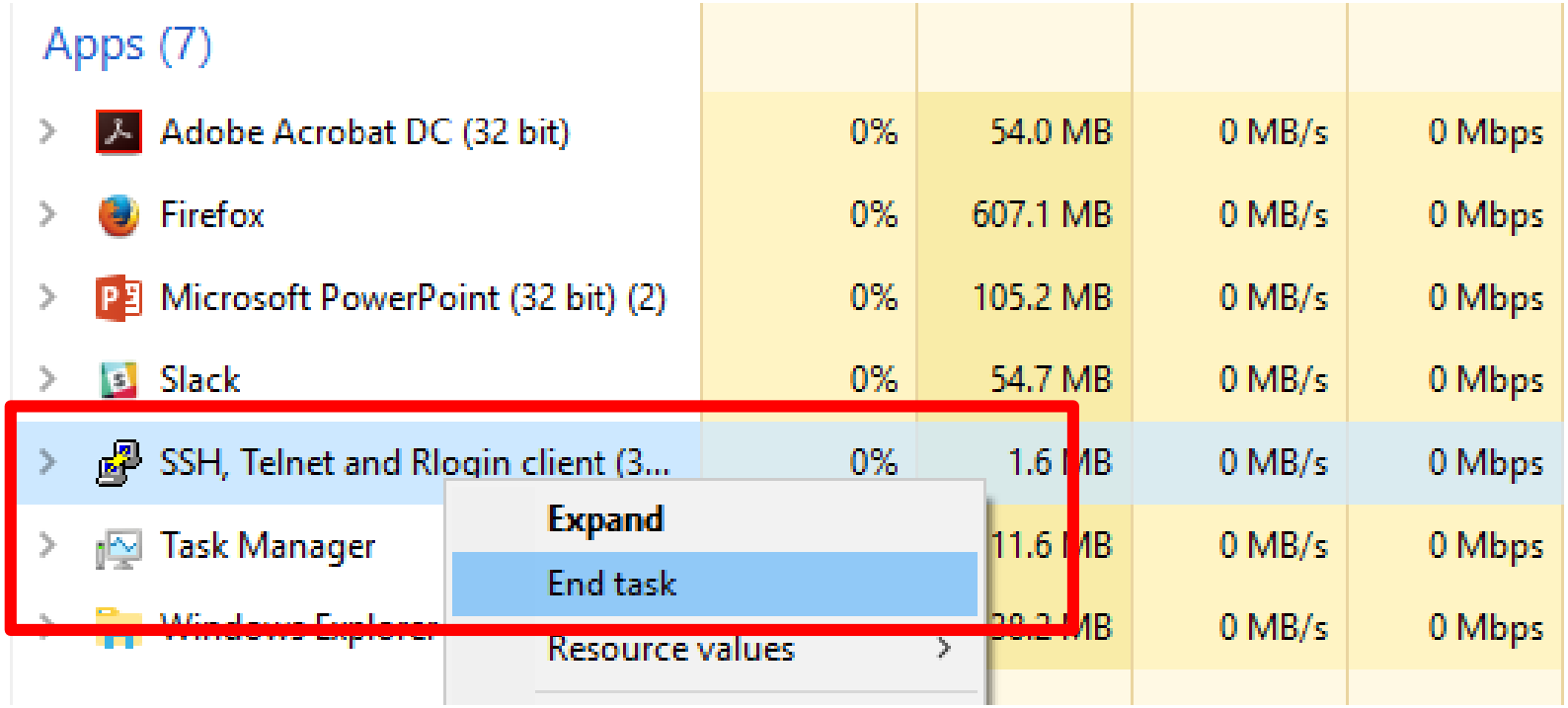


4 useful Signals

- SIGTERM (15)
  - Terminate a process and be nice about it!
  - Terminate in a controlled manner (close resources)
  - Process can ignore the interrupt
- SIGINT (2)
  - Interrupt a process → Same as **`Ctrl + C`**
  - Process can ignore the interrupt
- SIGKILL (9)
  - Terminate a process and be exceptionally forceful about it!
  - Use as a last option
- SIGHUP (1)
  - Signal hangup – mainly used for serial connection (historical)
  - Now used for pseudo/virtual terminals (e.g., PuTTY)
  - Daemons use SIGHUP to restart (e.g., re-read the configuration file)

Signal name	Signal number
SIGTERM	15
SIGINT	2
SIGKILL	9
SIGHUP	1

Killing processes



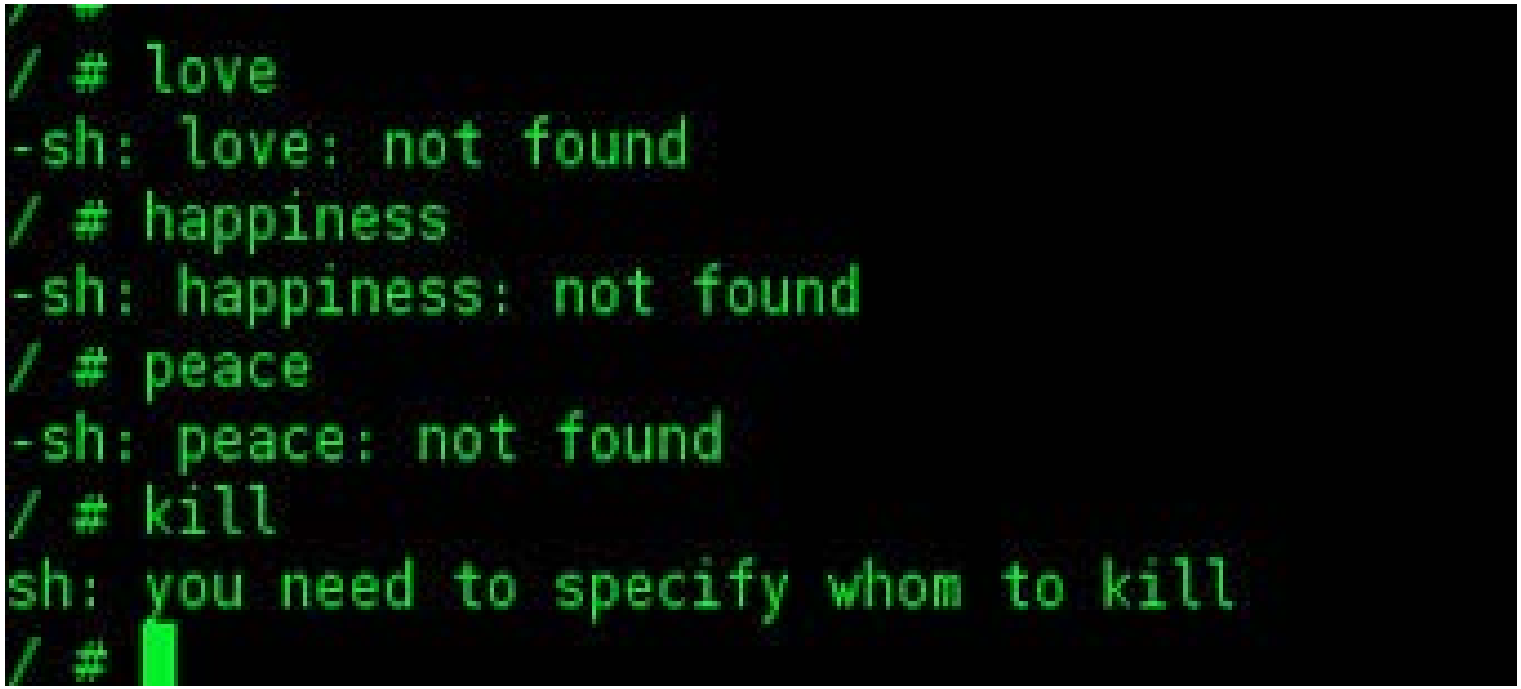
The `kill` command

- The **`kill`** command
  - Send a signal to a process
- Command syntax:

```
kill <PID>
```

- Generally requires process ID (PID)
- ***How can we find the PID?***

Only Linux Things



`kill`: default signal

Signal name	Signal number	Meaning
SIGTERM	15	Terminate the process in an orderly way.
SIGINT	2	Interrupt the process. A process can ignore this signal.
SIGKILL	9	Interrupt the process. A process can not ignore this signal.
SIGHUP	1	For daemons: reread the configuration file.

- By default, the **`kill`** command uses **SIGTERM**
  - Terminate a process and be nice about it!
  - For example, try to save a file before exiting

- To use a different signal, you have to specify it

```
kill -s <signal_name> <PID>
kill -s <signal_number> <PID>
```

`kill`: specifying a signal

Signal name	Signal number	Meaning
SIGTERM	15	Terminate the process in an orderly way.
SIGINT	2	Interrupt the process. A process can ignore this signal.
SIGKILL	9	Interrupt the process. A process can not ignore this signal.
SIGHUP	1	For daemons: reread the configuration file.

- Specifying to use SIGKILL:

```
kill -s KILL <PID>
kill -s SIGKILL <PID>
kill -s 9 <PID>
```

`kill`: killing processes by PID

`kill <PID>`

- How to find the PID?
  - **`ps, top, pstree -p`**
- Example syntax:
  - **`ps -e`** (manually find)
  - **`top`** (manually find or sort)
  - **`ps -e | grep <process_name>`**
  - **`pgrep <process_name>`**
  - **`pidof <process_name>`**

`kill`: killing processes by name

```
killall <process_name>
pkill <process_name>
```

- The killall and pkill commands takes a process name argument:
  - **`killall vi`**
  - **`killall sshd`**
  - **`pkill vi`**

Permissions and Processes

- Users can kill their own processes
  - Anything on **ps** output
  - But not everything on **ps -e** output
- Users cannot kill other users processes
- Users cannot kill system processes
  - Usually owned by root user
- As usual, *superuser* can do anything!

Managing System Shutdown/Reboot

- Essential command for shutdown/reboot:
  - **`shutdown`**

- Various parameters exist:
  - **`-H`** → Halt the system
  - **`-P`** → Power off the system
  - **`-r`** → Reboot the system
  - **`-c`** → Cancel the shutdown

`shutdown <options> <time> <wall>`

`shutdown`: Examples

- **`shutdown <options> <time> <wall>`**
  - General command syntax
- **`shutdown -P +5 “Shutdown immanent!”`**
  - Shutdown in 5 minutes seconds with a message
- **`shutdown -r now`**
  - Restart the system now
- **`shutdown -c`**
  - Cancel any pending shutdowns

shutdown: permissions & aliases

- Shutdown requires *superuser* privledge

```
sudo shutdown
```

- Various other related commands exist
- Not specifically aliases, but kind of…

poweroff → Alias for **shutdown -p now**

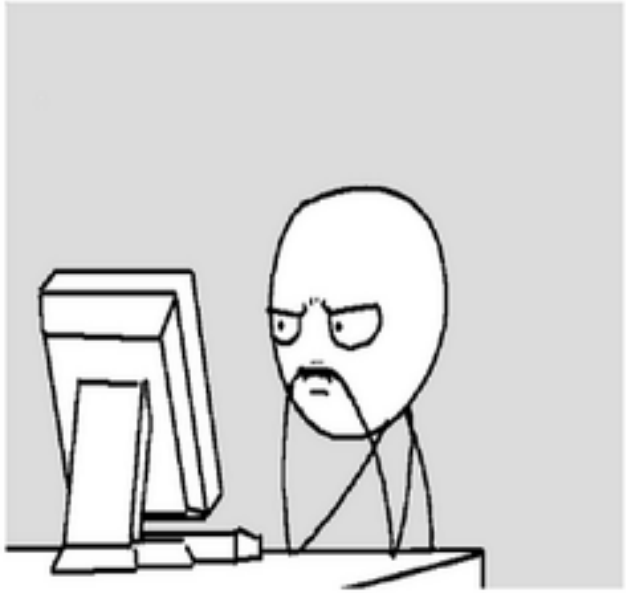
reboot → Alias for **shutdown -r**

```
sudo poweroff
sudo reboot
```

shutdown: permissions & aliases

Differences between:

normaluser@linux:~$



root@linux:~#

Lab-09-1 – Continue

- **TOPICS:**
- **Killing processes**
- **Working with signals**
- **System runtime (shutdown)**