

Title: Interprocess Communication

Objectives

- To learn about IPC
- To learn about concepts and uses of forks, pipe

Background

Interprocess Communication:

IPC stands for inter-process communication. Well, inter-process communication is very important in UNIX. It might not look as trivial but let's start with the following problem.

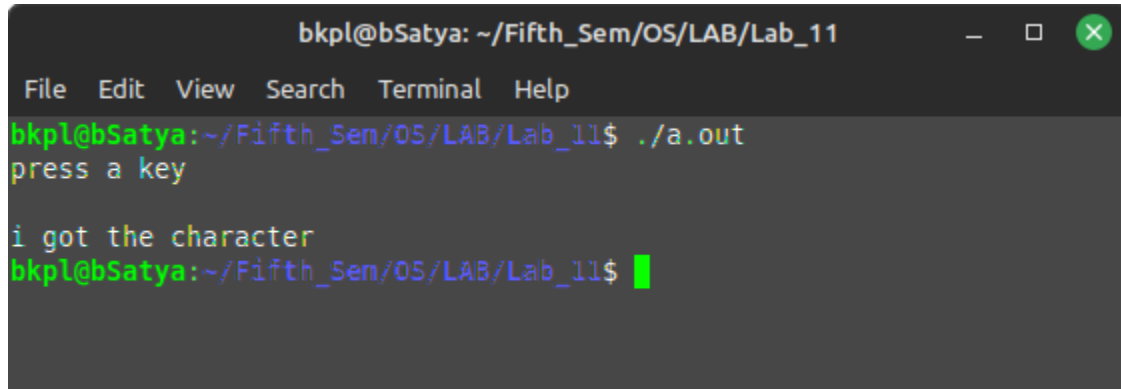
Suppose we have two processes running in memory, a child process, and a parent process. The requirement is such that the parent has to wait till a key is pressed from within the child and then the parent has to exit.

Lab Activities

1.

```
#include<stdio.h>
#include<stdlib.h>
#include<unistd.h>
void main()
{
    char c;
    int exflag=0;
    printf("press a key\n");
    scanf("%c",&c);
    if(!fork()){
        exflag=1;
        exit(0);
    }
    else{
        while(!exflag){
            printf("i got the character");
```

```
exit(0);  
}}  
}
```

A terminal window titled 'bkpl@bSatya: ~/Fifth_Sem/OS/LAB/Lab_11' with a menu bar (File, Edit, View, Search, Terminal, Help). The prompt is 'bkpl@bSatya:~/Fifth_Sem/OS/LAB/Lab_11\$' and the command './a.out' has been entered. The output shows 'press a key' followed by a blank line, then 'i got the character' on a new line. The prompt is now 'bkpl@bSatya:~/Fifth_Sem/OS/LAB/Lab_11\$' with a green cursor.

```
bkpl@bSatya: ~/Fifth_Sem/OS/LAB/Lab_11  
File Edit View Search Terminal Help  
bkpl@bSatya:~/Fifth_Sem/OS/LAB/Lab_11$ ./a.out  
press a key  
  
i got the character  
bkpl@bSatya:~/Fifth_Sem/OS/LAB/Lab_11$
```

2.

```
#include<stdio.h>  
#include<stdlib.h>  
#include<unistd.h>
```

```
void main()  
{  
    int pfd[2];  
    if(pipe(pfd)<0)  
        printf("error");  
    if(!fork()){  
        char data;  
        printf("I'm child");  
        printf("press any key to exit.....");  
        scanf("%c",&data);  
        write(pfd[1],&data,1);  
        printf("child exiting");  
    }  
    else{  
        char data;  
        read(pfd[0],&data,1);  
        printf("I'm parent");  
        printf("received %c from child",data);  
        printf("parent exiting.....\n");  
        exit(0);  
    }  
}
```

```
}
```

```
bkpl@bSatya: ~/Fifth_Sem/OS/LAB/Lab_11
File Edit View Search Terminal Help
bkpl@bSatya:~/Fifth_Sem/OS/LAB/Lab_11$ ./a.out
I'm child
press any key to exit....

child exiting
I'm parent
received
from child
parent exiting....
bkpl@bSatya:~/Fifth_Sem/OS/LAB/Lab_11$
```

3.

```
#include<stdio.h>
#include<stdlib.h>
#include<unistd.h>
#define msgsz 16
void main()
{
char *msg1= ("hello one");
char *msg2= ("hello two");
char *msg3= ("hello three");
char inbuf[msgsz];
int p[2],j;
pipe(p);
write(p[1],msg1,msgsz);
write(p[1],msg2,msgsz);
write(p[1],msg3,msgsz);
for(j=0;j<3;j++){
read(p[0],inbuf,msgsz);
printf("%s\n",inbuf);
}
exit(0);
}
```

```
bkpl@bSatya: ~/Fifth_Sem/OS/LAB/Lab_11
File Edit View Search Terminal Help
bkpl@bSatya:~/Fifth_Sem/OS/LAB/Lab_11$ ./a.out
hello one
hello two
hello three
bkpl@bSatya:~/Fifth_Sem/OS/LAB/Lab_11$ █
```

4.

```
#include<stdio.h>
#include<stdlib.h>
#include<unistd.h>
```

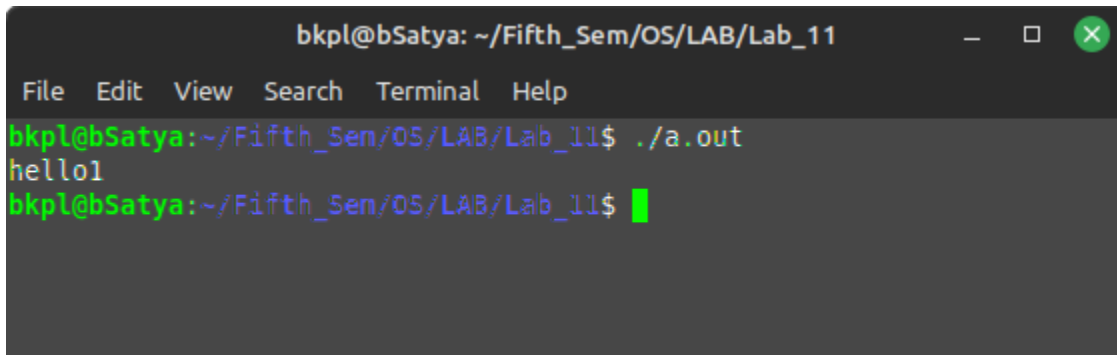
```
void main()
{
int p[2],pid;
pipe(p);
pid=fork();
if(pid==0)
printf("in the child p[0] is %d p[1] is %d\n",p[0],p[1]);
else
printf("in the parent p[0] is %d p[1] is %d\n",p[0],p[1]);
}
```

```
bkpl@bSatya: ~/Fifth_Sem/OS/LAB/Lab_11
File Edit View Search Terminal Help
bkpl@bSatya:~/Fifth_Sem/OS/LAB/Lab_11$ ./a.out
in the parent p[0] is 3 p[1] is 4
in the child p[0] is 3 p[1] is 4
bkpl@bSatya:~/Fifth_Sem/OS/LAB/Lab_11$ █
```

5.

```
#include<stdio.h>
#include<stdlib.h>
#include<unistd.h>
#define MSGSZ 16
main() {
```

```
char *msg="hello1";
char inbuf[MSGSZ];
int p[2],pid,j;
pipe(p);
pid=fork();
if(pid>0) {
close(p[0]);
write(p[1],msg,MSGSZ);
}
if(pid==0) {
close(p[1]);
read(p[0],inbuf,MSGSZ);
printf("%s\n",inbuf);
}
exit(0);
}
```

A terminal window titled "bkpl@bSatya: ~/Fifth_Sem/OS/LAB/Lab_11" with standard window controls. The terminal shows the command `./a.out` being executed, which outputs `hello1`. The prompt is `bkpl@bSatya:~/Fifth_Sem/OS/LAB/Lab_11$`.

```
bkpl@bSatya: ~/Fifth_Sem/OS/LAB/Lab_11
File Edit View Search Terminal Help
bkpl@bSatya:~/Fifth_Sem/OS/LAB/Lab_11$ ./a.out
hello1
bkpl@bSatya:~/Fifth_Sem/OS/LAB/Lab_11$
```

Conclusion:

- Learned about IPC
- Learned about the uses of fork and piping.