Joseph Pennington (2912079)

EECS 678 Lab06 Report

1. System designers chose to include signals that are handled solely by the operating system so the signal catching done by each individual process can be avoided. This eliminates the uncertainty and possibility that the process may handle the singles incorrectly.

2. The benefit of using the pause function call instead of an infinite while loop is that the pause function will halt a process until a signal is received. This allows us to continue with the process after it received a signal. An infinite while loop would indefinitely cause the processes to be stuck in that loop, even if the processes receive a signal.

3. Other signals are masked while inside the signal handler in order to have control over what signals the signal handler will respond to.

4. When implementing the time out, we did not mask the SIGALRM signal because it is an important timer that is crucial for implementing the time outs. This signal is sent to the calling process after the 5 seconds. If it were masked, it would eliminate the timer.