

Program Code TU856
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TECHNOLOGICAL UNIVERSITY DUBLIN
Grangeegorman

BSc in Computer Science.
BSc in Computer Science (International).

Year 2

SEMESTER 1 EXAMINATIONS 2024/25

Operating Systems 2

Internal Examiners

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Answer Questions 1 and any two others

Question 1 is worth 40 marks, all the rest are worth 30.

1

a) What are the four conditions that are required for Deadlock to occur? **(4 marks)**

b) Explain, using a suitable example, the steps required to push a node onto a stack. **(8 marks)**

c) Explain, using suitable examples, the steps required to add a node to an ordered linked list. **(10 marks)**

- d)
- i. Clearly explain, using suitable examples, if the following code will add two nodes to a queue data structure **(12 marks)**
 - ii. What would be the expected output using the printQueue function? **(6 marks)**

The function call and the parameters passed to the add function and the printQueue functions are:

```
QueueNode* headPtr = NULL; // initialize headPtr
QueueNode* tailPtr = NULL; // initialize tailPtr
char item; // char input by user

printf("%s", "Enter a character: ");
scanf("\n%c", &item);
add(&headPtr, &tailPtr, item);
printQueue(headPtr);
```

The code for the add function is:

```
// insert a node at queue tail
void add(QueueNode* *head, QueueNode* *tail, char value)
{
    QueueNode* newNode= malloc(sizeof(QueueNode));

    if (newNode != NULL) { // is space available
        newNode->data = value;
        newNode->nextPtr = NULL;

        // if empty, insert node at head
        if (*head == NULL) {
            *head = newNode;
        }
        else {
            (*tail)->nextPtr = newNode;
        }

        tail = newNode;
    }
    else {
        printf("%c not inserted. No memory available.\n", value);
    }
}
```

The code to print the Queue

```
// print the queue
void printQueue(QueueNode* currentPtr)
{
    // if queue is empty
    if (currentPtr == NULL) {
        puts("Queue is empty.\n");
    }
    else {
        puts("The queue is:");

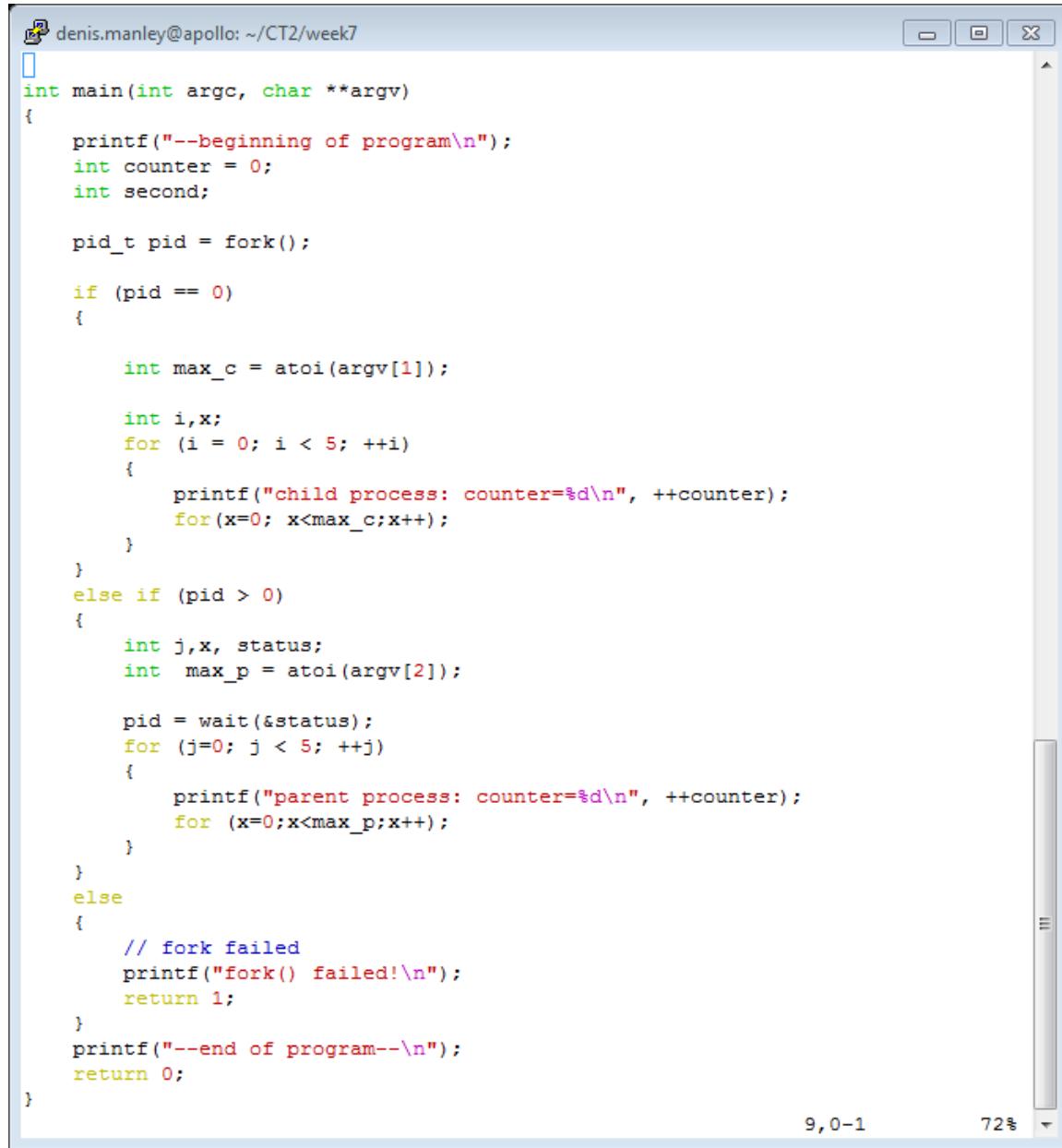
        // while not end of queue
        while (currentPtr != NULL) {
            printf("%c|%p (%p) --> ", currentPtr->data, currentPtr->nextPtr, currentPtr);
            currentPtr = currentPtr->nextPtr;
        }

        puts("NULL\n");
    }
}
```

2.

a) Briefly describe the elements of a process control block (PCB) **(4 marks)**

b) In Linux a process is created using the *fork()*, *wait()* and *exec()* command. Explain, how the *fork()* command and *wait()* command are used to produce a child process in the following code: **(9 marks)**



The screenshot shows a terminal window titled "denis.manley@apollo: ~/CT2/week7". The window contains the following C code:

```
int main(int argc, char **argv)
{
    printf("--beginning of program\n");
    int counter = 0;
    int second;

    pid_t pid = fork();

    if (pid == 0)
    {
        int max_c = atoi(argv[1]);

        int i,x;
        for (i = 0; i < 5; ++i)
        {
            printf("child process: counter=%d\n", ++counter);
            for(x=0; x<max_c;x++);
        }
    }
    else if (pid > 0)
    {
        int j,x, status;
        int max_p = atoi(argv[2]);

        pid = wait(&status);
        for (j=0; j < 5; ++j)
        {
            printf("parent process: counter=%d\n", ++counter);
            for (x=0;x<max_p;x++);
        }
    }
    else
    {
        // fork failed
        printf("fork() failed!\n");
        return 1;
    }
    printf("--end of program--\n");
    return 0;
}
```

The terminal window also displays the status bar at the bottom with "9,0-1" and "72%".

c) In the code from part b what is the purpose of the command line arguments: 1000 and 10000 if the command line arguments are: ./fork 1000 10000? **(5 marks)**

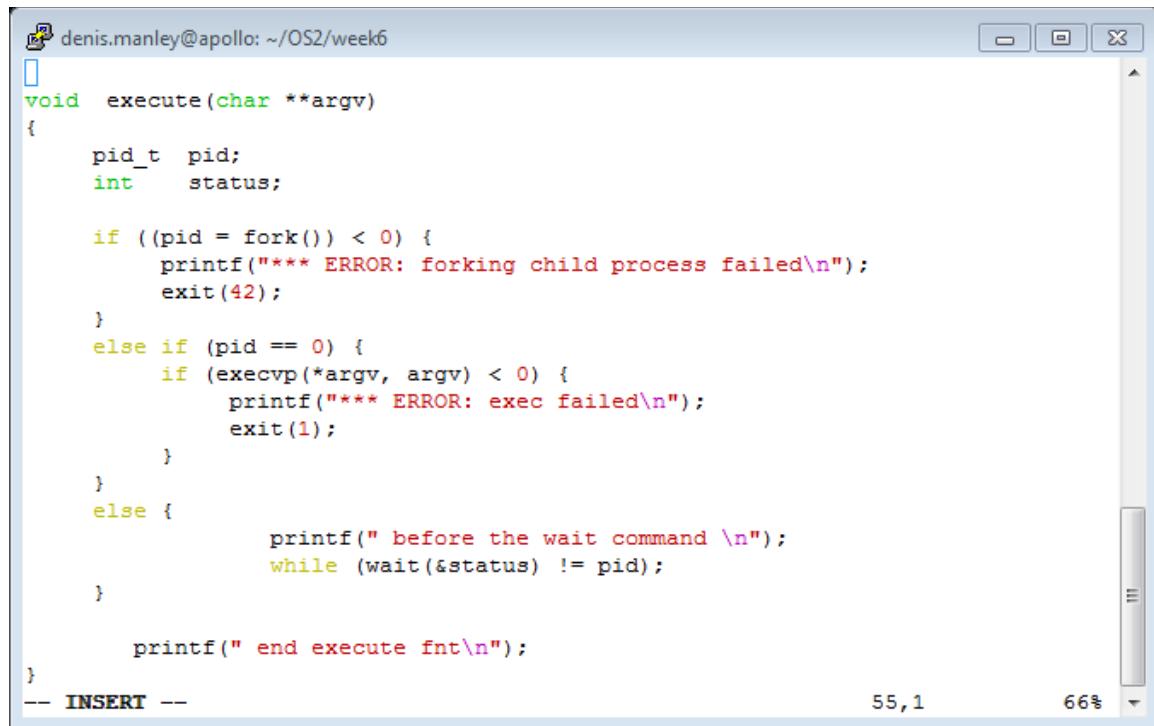
d) The execvp linux command has the following function prototype format

```
int execvp(char *prog, char **argv)
```

Explain, using an example, what this function will do and what would data be stored in the prog parameter and the argv parameter if the commandline `cp file1.c file2.c`.
(4 marks)

e)

The following code uses fork(), wait() and exec() functions. Explain what the code will do if the commandline arguments stored in argv are `mv file1.c file2.c`. where mv is the linux rename function.
(8 marks)



A screenshot of a terminal window titled "denis.manley@apollo: ~/OS2/week6". The window contains the following C code:

```
void execute(char **argv)
{
    pid_t pid;
    int status;

    if ((pid = fork()) < 0) {
        printf("**** ERROR: forking child process failed\n");
        exit(42);
    }
    else if (pid == 0) {
        if (execvp(*argv, argv) < 0) {
            printf("**** ERROR: exec failed\n");
            exit(1);
        }
    }
    else {
        printf(" before the wait command \n");
        while (wait(&status) != pid);
    }

    printf(" end execute fnt\n");
}
```

The code defines a function `execute` that takes a double pointer to a character array (`char **argv`). It first calls `fork()` to create a child process. If `fork()` fails, it prints an error message and exits with code 42. If the child process is created successfully, it checks if the child's PID is 0. If so, it calls `execvp` to replace the current process with the program specified in `argv`. If `execvp` fails, it prints an error message and exits with code 1. If the child process is not 0, it enters a loop where it waits for the child process to terminate using `wait`. Once the child process has terminated, it prints a message indicating the execution is complete.

3.

a) Distinguish between single and multi-threading processes. **(4 marks)**

b) In C, a thread is created using the following code:

```
int pthread_create(pthread_t *tidp, pthread_attr_t *attr, *start_rtn, void * arg)
```

Clearly explain what each of the arguments in the thread create function mean.

(8 marks)

c) Explain, in your own words, the following code: **(10 marks)**

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

int value;
void *my_thread(void *param); /* the thread */

main (int argc, char *argv[])
{
    pthread_t tid; /* thread identifier */
    int retcode;

    if (argc != 4) {
        printf ("program exiting: incorrect number of command line arguments\n");
        exit(0);
    }
/*create Thread */
    retcode = pthread_create(&tid,NULL,my_thread,argv[3]);
    if (retcode != 0){
        fprintf (stderr, "Unable to create thread\n");
        exit (1);
    }

    pthread_join(tid,NULL);

    printf("The value returned by the thread is %d",value);
    printf ("\nThe end of the program\n");

    pthread_exit(0);
}

/* explain that this thread does */
void *my_thread(void *param)
{
    int i = atoi(param);
    printf("I am the child thread passed the value %d \n",i);

    value = i*i*i*i;

    pthread_exit(0);
}
```

d) What would be the output of the code in part c if the following are input at the command prompt? **(6 marks)**

- (a.) ./thread
- (b.) ./thread 3 7 7
- (c.) ./thread 3 7 5

e) What would be the two outcomes in the above program if the *pthread_join* command was removed and the command line input was *./thread 6 5 7*? Explain the reason for your answer. **(2 marks)**

4.

- a) Explain, using an example, why it is critical to ensure that concurrency is carefully controlled for processes accessing the same data item; in other words the *race* problem. **(6 marks)**

- b) How is the Test and Set approach used to prevent the race problem? **(2 marks)**

- c) Explain, in detail, what the *signal* and *wait* threads are doing: **(12 Marks)**

if

```
TCOUNT = 5  
COUNT_Limit = 6  
count = 0
```

```
void *signal(void *t)  
{  
    int i;  
    long my_id = (long)t;  
  
    for (i=0; i < TCOUNT; i++) {  
        pthread_mutex_lock(&count_mutex);  
        count++;  
  
        if (count == COUNT_LIMIT) {  
            printf("Signal Thread: thread %ld, count = %d Threshold reached.",  
                   my_id, count);  
            pthread_cond_signal(&count_threshold_cv);  
        }  
  
        pthread_mutex_unlock(&count_mutex);  
  
        sleep(1); // suspend thread  
    }  
    pthread_exit(NULL);  
}
```

d) If *main()* has the following thread create calls:

```
int main(int argc, char *argv[])
{
    int i, rc;
    long t1=3, t2=1, t3=2;
    pthread_t threads[3];
    /* Create Three threads one to use the wait function and two for the signal function */
    pthread_create(&threads[0], &attr, wait_fnt, (void *)t1);
    pthread_create(&threads[1], &attr, signal_fnt, (void *)t2);
    pthread_create(&threads[2], &attr, signal_fnt, (void *)t3);

    /* Wait for all 3 threads to complete */
    for (i = 0; i < NUM_THREADS; i++) {
        pthread_join(threads[i], NULL);
    }
    printf ("Final value of count = %d.\n",count);
```

e) Give a sample output of this multithread program and explain your reasoning.

(10 marks)