Dec. 04, 2023

# ICS-OS Lab 03: Environment Variables, Processes, and Threads

#### **PREREQUISITES:**

To proceed with this lab, you should have completed Lab 02. Most of the commands that we will use in this lab will be run relative to the \$ICSOS\_HOME/ics-os directory. Update your local copy of the source code and create a new branch for this lab.

```
shio@ksgabinete:~$ ls
                              MOK.priv
             MOK.der
shio@ksgabinete:~$ cd ics-os-kgsg/
shio@ksgabinete:~/ics-os-kgsg$ cd ics-os/
shio@ksgabinete:~/ics-os-kgsg/ics-os$ checkout master
checkout: command not found
shio@ksgabinete:~/ics-os-kgsg/ics-os$ git checkout master
        ics-os/base/icsos.hlp
        ics-os/ics-os-floppy.img
        ics-os/kernel/console/console.c
        ics-os/kernel/dexapi/dex32API.c
        ics-os/kernel/mapfile.txt
Already on 'master'
Your branch is up to date with 'origin/master'.
shio@ksgabinete:~/ics-os-kgsg/ics-os$ git branch
  lab01
  lab02
shio@ksgabinete:~/ics-os-kgsg/ics-os$ git pull
Already up to date.
shio@ksgabinete:~/ics-os-kgsg/ics-os$ git checkout -b lab03
Switched to a new branch 'lab03'
shio@ksgabinete:~/ics-os-kgsg/ics-os$ git branch
  lab01
  lab02
  master
```

#### TASKS:

# Task 1: Environment Variables (3 points) QUESTIONS:

1. What data structure is used for the implementation of environment variables?

```
| Description | Component | Co
```

- → The environment variables in ICS-OS were implemented using the data structure Doubly-linked list.
- 2. Are environment variables unique for each process or shared by all processes?
- → In the screenshot provided for the implementation of the environment variables in ICS-OS, we can notice that there's a global variable named env\_busywait. It is used for synchronization, like when we're working with multiple threads. With this, I'm assuming that the environment variables in ICS-OS are shared by all processes.
- 3. What are the functions used to set and get an environment variable?

```
//moracomment does not exist yet
if (environment = olig)
in the makingth-eriten(name), valuelength-strien(value);
environment = (env.strings); malloc(szeof(env.strings));
//add to the beginning, innert at head
environment-west = environment;
env.pead = environment;
env.pead = environment;
env.pead = environment;
env.pead = environment;
//allocate spaces
environment-whase = (char*|malloc(namelength=1);
environment-whase = (char*|malloc(namelength=1);
//copy the strings
stropy environment-walue, value);
stropy environment-walue, value);
files if (explaced) (for environment-walue, value);
//ensize the size of the value string
environment-walue-(char*|realloc(environment-walue, value);
//posts the value
stropy(environment-walue, value);
//consel
env.buspadt = 0;
reform 0;
};
```

```
//Return the value of an environment variable
char *env_getenv(const char *name, char *buf){
    //find the environment variable
    env strings *ptr = env_getstring(name);
    //variable not found
    if (ptr == 0)
        return 0;
    //check if no one is accessing the environment variable
    while (env_busywait)
    ;
    //we're in, copy the value of the variable to buf
    env_busywait =1;
    strcpy(buf,ptr-value);
    //tet go of the environment string
    env_busywait = 0;
    //return buf
    return buf;
};
```

- → The functions used for setting and getting an environment variable are env\_setenv() and env\_getenv() respectively.
- 4. Examine kernel/console/console.c. What console commands use the functions in question 3?

```
if (strcmp(u,"set") == 0){    //-- Sets an environment variable. Args: <key>=<value>
    u=strtok(0,"");
    if (u=0){
        env_showenv();
    }else{
        char *name = strtok(u,"=");
        char *value = strtok(0,"\n");
        env_setenv(name, value, 1);
    };
}else
```

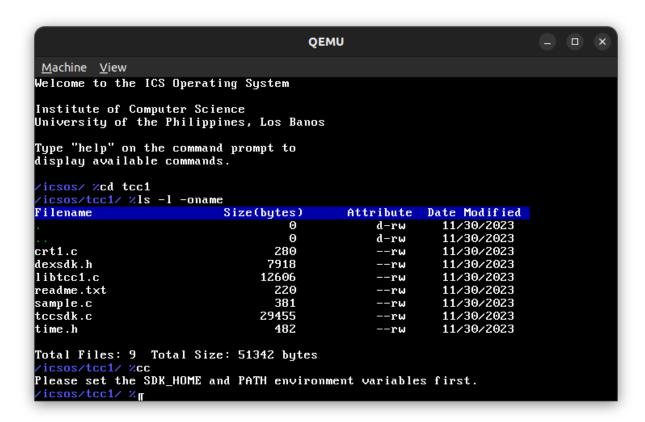
→ In ICS-OS, the console command 'cc' utilizes the function for getting an environment variable [env\_getenv()] while the console command 'set' utilizes the function for setting an environment variable [env\_setenv()].

# Task 2: Edit and compile programs within ICS-OS (3 points)

a.

Build and boot ICS-OS. Run the following command line sequence and capture a screen shot.

```
[1]% cd tcc1
[2]% ls -1 -oname
[3]% cc
```



#### b. Setting environment variables:

```
Machine View
/icsos/tcc1/ %set
/icsos/tcc1/ %set SDK_HOME=/icsos/tcc1
/icsos/tcc1/ %set PATH=/icsos/apps
/icsos/tcc1/ %set
PATH=/icsos/apps
SDK_HOME=/icsos/tcc1
/icsos/tcc1/ %
```

c. Write and compile the envtest.c program. Opening the ICS-OS simple editor:

```
int main(){
        char val[30];
        printf("Testing environment variables.\n");
        getenv("PATH",val);
        printf("PATH is %\n",val);
        setenv("PERICO_HEART","liza s.");
        setenv("BETEL_HEART","enrique g.");
        return 0;_
}
```

Saving envtest.c:

```
Save file, Enter filename? [envtest.c] or "n":?

success!! {

char val[30];

printf("Testing environment variables.\n");

getenv("PATH",val);

printf("PATH is %s\n",val);

setenv("PERICO_HEART","liza s.");

setenv("BETEL_HEART","enrique g.");

return 0;
}
```

# Compiling:

```
/icsos/tcc1/ %ls
                                                           crt1.c
dexsdk.h
                             envtest.c
                                                           libtcc1.c
                                                           tccsdk.c
readme.txt
                             sample.c
time.h
Total Files: 10 Total Size: 51554 bytes
/icsos/tcc1/ %cc envtest.exe envtest.c
tcc: file '/icso/tcc/crt1.c' not found
/icsos/tcc1/tccsdk.c:1385: warning: assignment makes pointer from integer withou
t a cast
/icsos/tcc1/tccsdk.c:1389: warning: assignment makes pointer from integer withou
t a cast
success!!
```

## **QUESTIONS:**

1. Observe that you were able to run ed.exe in command line 'ed.exe envtest.c' without specifying its absolute path despite the current directory being /icsos/tcc1. Why is this so?

- → I was able to run ed.exe in command line 'ed.exe envtest.c' without specifying its absolute path despite the current directory being /icsos/tcc1 because of the environment variable PATH I set earlier. This environment variable has a value that specifies where in the filesystem executables can be found. Setting the environment variable PATH earlier with the value '/icsos/apps' enables me to run an executable file located inside the specified directory even when I'm not in that particular directory.
- 2. Command line 'envtest.exe' will not work. Why? Show your fix to be able to run envtest.exe.

  → When we compile our code 'envtest.c' earlier with the console command 'cc', an executable file named 'envtest.exe' was created inside the /icsos/tcc1 directory. In order for 'envtest.exe' to work, we need to place it first inside the directory specified by the DATH variable. We can do this by using one

named 'envtest.exe' was created inside the /icsos/tcc1 directory. In order for 'envtest.exe' to work, we need to place it first inside the directory specified by the PATH variable. We can do this by using one of the ICS-OS internal commands called 'copy'. This will allow us to duplicate a file from one directory to another.

Making a copy of 'envtest.exe' in '/icsos/apps' directory:

```
/icsos/tcc1/ %copy /icsos/tcc1/envtest.exe /icsos/apps
copying to /icsos/apps/envtest.exe..
success!!
Copying 18496 bytes...
reading source file..
writing source file..
copy done.
```

Now we can enter the command 'envtest.exe' in the console again, and the following output will be displayed:

```
/icsos/tcc1/ %envtest.exe
Testing environment variables.
PATH is /icsos/apps
/icsos/tcc1/ %
```

3. After successfully running envtest.exe, what is the output of command line 'set'? Output of the command 'set' after running envtest.ext:

```
/icsos/tcc1/ /set
BETEL_HEART=enrique g.
PERICO_HEART=liza s.
PATH=/icsos/apps
SDK_HOME=/icsos/tcc1
/icsos/tcc1/ /
```

→ 2 new environment variables were added.

Does this support your answer in Q2 from Task 1?

Yes, this just proves my assumption in Q2 of Task 1 that environment variables are not unique for each process but shared by all processes. Take the executable files ed.exe and envtest.exe for example. They share the same environment variable PATH to be executed properly.

#### Task 3: Processes

## Task 3.1: Process Control Block (4 points)

PCB implementation in ICS-OS (process.h):

```
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| Selection View G
```

## **QUESTIONS:**

- 1. What field in the PCB describes the security bits for a process?
- → DWORD accesslevel;

- 2. What field in the PCB describes the time the process arrived in the system?
- → DWORD arrivaltime;

```
DWORD syscallsize; //stores the size of the system call stack

DWORD lastcputime, totalcputime; /*the taskswitcher increments this value every time

DWORD arrivaltime; //holds the time when this process arrived

DWORD sembandle; //holds the handle of the process semaphore

DWORD sembandle; //holds to a data structure containing the memory locatons taken up by
```

- 3. What field in the PCB describes the memory information used by a process?
- → process\_mem \*meminfo;

- 4. What field in the PCB describes the execution context(hardware specific) of a process?
- → saveregs regs;

# Task 3.2: Startup Processes (5 points)

Running the command 'ps':

```
/icsos/ %ps
dex32_scheduler
Processes in memory:
                         Access Lvl PPID
                         kernel
                                     0
                                                                0s
                                                                       28s(20)%
   1 task_mgr
                                     0
                    (t) kernel
                                                               23s
[16
                                                         4 K
                                                                        5s(20)%
[17]
   l disk_mgr
                    (t) kernel
                                     Θ
                                                               23s
                                                                        5s(20)%
   1 fg_mgr
                    (t) kernel
                                     0
                                                               24s
                                                                        5s(20)%
[19 ] console(0)
                    (t) kernel
                                     0
                                                               24s
                                                                        5s(20)%
                   : 5 processes (20 KB)
Time Since Startup : 52
Legend: AT = Arrival Time, CT = CPU Time, %CT = Percent CPU Time
```

- 1. How many processes and kernel threads (those with (t) in the name) in total are running?
- → In total, there are 5 processes and kernel threads running. (4 of which are kernel threads)
- 2. What is the name of the process with PID 0?
- → The name of the process with PID 0 is dex\_kernel;
- 3. What is the PID of console(0)? What is its access level?
- → The PID of console(0) is 19 and it has a kernel access level.
- 4. What function is used to create the running kernel threads?

  The function createkthread in process.c is used to create the running kernel threads.

Some of the createkthread function calls (in kernel32.c):

//create the IO manager thread which handles all I/O to and from //block devices like the hard disk, floppy, CO-MOM etc. see losched.c printf("Initializing the disk manager..."); createxthread((oold\*)loogr\_diskmgf, "disk\_mgf",200000); printf("(Ok\\n"); //Install a mult block device printf("Initializing the mult block device...\*); devfs\_initualizing the mult block device...\*);

5. To what function is the EIP register assigned to in the PCB of the very first process?

The EIP register is assigned to the function dex\_init (in kernel32.c) in the PCB of the very first process.

```
the initial processes that would be run. Use the ps command to view the details of these processes. Arrocover, LPT Field or the year of ye
```

# Task 3.3: Consoles (2 points)

Creating a new console:

```
/icsos/ %newconsole
New console thread created.
/icsos/ %
```

#### **QUESTIONS:**

1. Using ps, what is the name and PID of the new console? What is the name and PID of its parent process? Is the new console a process or a thread?

```
dex32_scheduler v1.00
Processes in memory:
                                     PPID
                                      0
                                                                 20
                                                                      224s(18)%
[0 ]
                                                          4 K
                         kernel
[16 ] task_mgr
                     (t) kernel
                                      0
                                                          4K
                                                                23s
                                                                      200s(18)%
[17 ] disk_mgr
                     (t) kernel
                                      0
                                                          4K
                                                                23s
                                                                      200s(18)%
[18 ] fg_mgr
                                                                      200s(18)%
                     (t) kernel
                                      0
                                                                24s
                                                          4 K
[19 ] console(0)
                     (t) kernel
                                      0
                                                          4 K
                                                                24s
                                                                      200s(18)%
                                      19
                                                               693s
[20 ] console(1)
                     (t) kernel
                                                          4K
                                                                       67s(6)%
                    : 6 processes (24 KB)
Total
Time Since Startup : 1030
Legend: AT = Arrival Time, CT = CPU Time, ::CT = Percent CPU Time
```

- → The name and PID of the new console are 'console(1)' and '20', respectively.
- → The name and PID of the new console's parent process are 'console(0)' and '19', respectively.
- → The new console is a kernel thread (since it does have '(t)' along its name).
- 2. Study the implementation of the newconsole command in the kernel/console/console.c. What function is used to create a new console?

```
if (strcmp(u,"newconsole") == 0){    //-- Creates a new console.
    //create a new console
    //create a new console
    console_new();
    printf("New console thread created.\n");
}else

int console_new(){
    //create a new console
    char consolename(255);
    sprintf(consolename, "console(%d)", console_first);
    return createkthread((void*)console, consolename, 2000000);
}else
```

The function console new() is used to create a new console.

## Task 3.4: User Processes (2 points)

Editing and compiling 'count.c':

```
icsos/tcc1/ %ls
                                                                count.c
crt1.c
                                dexsdk.h
                                                                envtest.c
envtest.exe
                                libtcc1.c
                                                                readme.txt
                                                                time.h
sample.c
                                tccsdk.c
Total Files: 12 Total Size: 70133 bytes /icsos/tcc1/ %cc count.exe count.c tcc: file '/icso/tcc/crt1.c' not found
/icsos/tcc1/tccsdk.c:1385: warning: assignment makes pointer from integer withou
t a cast
/icsos/tcc1/tccsdk.c:1389: warning: assignment makes pointer from integer withou
t a cast
success!!
/icsos/tcc1/ %
```

Copying 'count.exe' to '/icsos/apps':

```
/icsos/tcc1/ %copy count.exe /icsos/apps
copying to /icsos/apps/count.exe..
Copying 18368 bytes...
reading source file..
writing source file..
copy done.
/icsos/tcc1/ %
```

Running 'count.exe' on a new console:

```
/icsos/tcc1/ //set
PATH=/icsos/apps
SDK_HOME=/icsos/tcc1
/icsos/tcc1/ //newconsole
New console thread created.
/icsos/tcc1/ //_
```

```
Machine View

3
4
5
6
7
8
9
0
1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
0
1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
```

#### **QUESTIONS:**

1. What is the PID of count.exe process? What is its access level? How much memory does it use? What is its parent process?

```
dex32_scheduler v1.00
Processes in memory:
                                 PPID
[0 ] d
                                                          es
                                 Θ
                                                                41s(14)%
                      kernel
                                                   4 K
[16 ] task_mgr
                  (t) kernel
                                 0
                                                    4 K
                                                         23s
                                                                17s(14)%
                                 0
[17 ] disk_mgr
                                                   4 K
                                                         23s
                  (t) kernel
                                                                17s(14)%
[18 ] fg_mgr
                  (t) kernel
                                 0
                                                         24s
                                                                17s(14)%
                                                   4 K
[19 ] console(0)
                  (t) kernel
                                  0
                                                    4K
                                                         24s
                                                                17s(14)%
[20 ] console(1)
                                  19
                  (t) kernel
                                                   4K
                                                         50s
                                                                12s(14)%
[21 ] /icsos/apps/count.exe
                                        20
                                                        224K
                                                                63s
                                                                      11s(1
                             user
4)%
Total : 7 processes (248 KB)
Time Since Startup : 137
/icsos/ %__
```

- → The PID of count.exe process is 21 and it has a user access level.
- → count.exe uses 224k of memory.
- → Its parent process is the newly created console, 'console(1)', with PID 20.

## Terminating count.exe:

```
OEMU
Machine View
/icsos/tcc1/ %kill 21
/icsos/tcc1/ %ps
dex32_scheduler v1.00
Processes in memory:
                                       PPID
[0 ]
                          kernel
                                       0
                                                                    0s
                                                                           35s(16)%
[16 ] task_mgr
                      (t) kernel
                                       0
                                                                   23s
                                                                           11s(16)%
                                                             4 K
[17
    1 disk_mgr
                      (t) kernel
                                       0
                                                             4 K
                                                                   23s
                                                                           11s(16)%
[18 ] fg_mgr
                      (t) kernel
                                       0
                                                                   24s
                                                                           11s(16)%
                                                                   24s
[19 ] console(0)
                      (t) kernel
                                       0
                                                                           11s(16)%
                                                             4 K
[20 ] console(1)
                      (t) kernel
                                        19
                                                                   58s
                                                                            5s(16)%
                                                             4K
                     : 6 processes (24 KB)
Total
Time Since Startup : 98
Legend: AT = Arrival Time, CT = CPU Time, %CT = Percent CPU Time
/icsos/tcc1/ %_
```

# Task 3.5: Process Creation (5 points)

Editing and compiling meshell.c:

```
/icsos/tcc1/ %cc meshell.exe meshell.c
Please set the SDK_HOME and PATH environment variables first.
/icsos/tcc1/ %set SDK_HOME=/icsos/tcc1
/icsos/tcc1/ %set PATH=/icsos/apps
/icsos/tcc1/ %cc meshell.exe meshell.c
tcc: file '/icso/tcc/crt1.c' not found
meshell.c:11: warning: assignment makes pointer from integer without a cast
/icsos/tcc1/tccsdk.c:1385: warning: assignment makes pointer from integer without a cast
/icsos/tcc1/tccsdk.c:1389: warning: assignment makes pointer from integer without a cast
success!!
/icsos/tcc1/ %copy meshell.exe /icsos/apps
copying to /icsos/apps/meshell.exe..
success!!
Copying 18624 bytes...
reading source file..
writing source file..
copy done.
/icsos/tcc1/ %____
```

Running meshell.exe

```
/icsos/tcc1/ xmeshell.exe

MeShell v1.0

Type 'exit' to end session.

$help

Executable not found.

$gg

Executable not found.

$exit

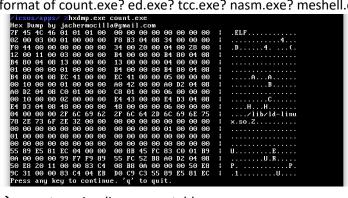
Executable not found.

$exit

Executable not found.
```

#### **QUESTIONS**

1. Use hxdmp.exe to determine the format of some of the executables in the apps folder. If the first few bytes has MZ then it is a windows executable, if ELF then it is a linux executable. What is the executable format of count.exe? ed.exe? tcc.exe? nasm.exe? meshell.exe?



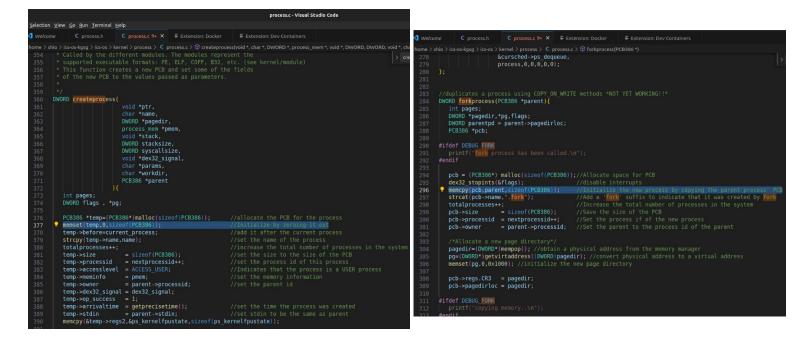
→ count.exe is a linux executable

ed.exe is a windows executable

tcc.exe is a windows executable

→ nasm.exe is a windows executable

- → meshell.exe is a linux executable
- 2. Which line in the forkprocess() and createprocess() functions initializes the PCB of the new process. How do the functions differ?



- → In the process.c file, following the allocation of memory space for the PCB using the malloc function, the createprocess() and forkprocess() functions initialize the PCB of the new process at lines 377 and 296, respectively. In the createprocess function, the memset() function is invoked to initialize the value of the allocated memory space to zero. In contrast, the memcpy() function is utilized in the forkprocess function to initialize the value of the allocated memory space with a pre-existing PCB.
- → The distinction between the two functions (createprocess() and forkprocess()) is that the createprocess() function creates the PCB of a new process from scratch, while the forkprocess function duplicates the PCB of the new process's parent process.

Editing and compiling fork.c:

```
/icsos/tcc1/ %ls
                                                         count.c
                            crt1.c
count.exe
                                                         dexsdk.h
envtest.c
                            envtest.exe
                                                         fork.c
libtcc1.c
                                                         meshell.exe
                            meshell.c
                                                         tccsdk.c
readme.txt
                            sample.c
time.h
Total Files: 16 Total Size: 107929 bytes
/icsos/tcc1/ xcc fork.exe fork.c
tcc: file '/icso/tcc/crt1.c' not found
/icsos/tcc1/tccsdk.c:1385: warning: assignment makes pointer from integer withou
t a cast
/icsos/tcc1/tccsdk.c:1389: warning: assignment makes pointer from integer withou
t a cast
success!!
/icsos/tcc1/ %
```

Creating a new console to run meshell.exe:

```
/icsos/ %cd apps
/icsos/apps/ %newconsole
New console thread created.
```

Running meshell.exe on the new console:

```
/icsos/apps/ %meshell.exe
MeShell v1.0
Type 'exit' to end session.
```

Running fork.exe in meshell:

```
MeShell v1.0
Type 'exit' to end session.

$fork.exe
Calling fork()..
In child. mypid:23
Child: 0
In parent, mypid:22, child pid: 23
Parent: 0
Child: 1
Parent: 1
Child: 2
Parent: 2
Child: 3
Child: 4
Parent: 3
Child: 5
Parent: 4
Child: 6
Parent: 5
Child: 6
Parent: 5
Child: 7
Child: 8
Parent: 6
Child: 9
```

Updated list of processes:

```
QEMU
Machine View
icsos/ %cd apps
/icsos/apps/ %newconsole
New console thread created.
/icsos/apps/ %ps
dex32_scheduler v1.00
Processes in memory:
                                 PPID
[0 ]
                      kernel
                                  Θ
                                                          0s
                                                                42s(31)%
[16 ] task_mgr
                  (t) kernel
                                  Θ
                                                          23s
                                                    4K
                                                                18s(13)%
[17 ] disk_mgr
                                  Θ
                                                                18s(13)%
                  (t) kernel
                                                    4 K
                                                          23s
[18 ] fg_mgr
                                                                18s(13)%
                   (t) kernel
                                  0
                                                          24s
[19 ] console(0)
                  (t) kernel
                                  0
                                                          24s
                                                                18s(13)%
                                                    4 K
                  (t) kernel
                                                                10s( 7)%
[20 ] console(1)
                                  19
                                                    4K
                                                          68s
                                                                          Зs
[21 ] /icsos/apps/meshell.exe
                                          20
                                                          224K
                                                                 107s
                               user
(2)%
[22 ] fork.exe
                                                         124s
                                                                 2s( 1)%
                      user
                                  21
                                                  224K
                                  22
                                                                 2s(1)%
[23 ] fork.exe.fork
                      user
                                                  444K
                                                         124s
                  : 9 processes (916 KB)
Total
Time Since Startup : 142
/icsos/apps/ %
```

Task 3.6: Process Termination (2 points) QUESTIONS:

- 1. What function is called to kill a kernel process/thread?
- → The dex32\_killkthread() function is the one being called to kill a kernel process/thread.

- 2. What function is called to kill a user thread?
- → The kill thread() function is called to kill a user thread.

```
//Kill user threads
DWORD kill_thread(PCB386 *ptr){
    DWORD flaps;
    dex32_stopints(sflags);
    kill_children(ptr->processid); //kill the children of this thread first!!cascade kill
    //Tell the scheduler to remove this thread from the ready queue
    ps_dequeue(ptr);

if (ptr->stackptr0!=0)
    free(ptr);
    dex32_restoreints(flags);
    return 1;
    ;

};

//Iterates over the process list to terminate children processes

DWORD kill_children(DWORD processid){
    PCB386 *ptr;
    sync_entercrit(&processmgr_busy);
    ptr = bridges_ps_findprocess(processid);

if (ptr!=-1){
    if (ptr!=-1){
        if (ptr!-owner==processid &6 !( ptr->status&PS_ATTB_UNLOADABLE ) ){
            //kill_thread(ptr);
            kill_process(ptr->processid);
            sync_leavecrit(&processmgr_busy);
            return 1;
        };
        sync_leavecrit(&processmgr_busy);
        return 0;
};
```

#### Reflection

Write some realizations and questions that crossed your mind while doing this lab.

Doing this lab exercise made me realize how crucial APIs really are in big projects like ICS-OS. The well-designed ICS-OS API helped me understand how different parts of the OS behave and communicate with each other, making it easier for me to determine which sections of the code one should modify to add some new feature implementation without worrying too much about messing up the entire behavior of the OS. This exercise also reminded me of just how little knowledge I have about operating systems in general. Before, I didn't even know the purpose of the PATH environment variable in my system. Despite encountering it multiple times, especially when installing programming languages like Python or Java, I never clearly understood why including them in the PATH was mandatory. Thankfully, after completing this lab, I've come to learn the true purpose of the PATH variable and, in general, the significance of environment variables in an operating system like ICS-OS.

The only two questions that come to mind during this lab exercise are: "Can a process with kernel access-level be forked?" and "Why can't I kill a console process in ICS-OS?" I just noticed that when I execute fork.exe directly inside a console, its access-level is limited to users only. Shouldn't it be supposed to be at the kernel access-level? Since it's just basically making a duplicate of its parent process - which is, in fact, a kernel process? Or is there an underlying implementation of the code somewhere that I didn't know of that limits a forked process to have user access-level only? Now, for the second question, despite multiple attempts, I still can't find success in killing a console process. Is it really not possible to terminate a console process in ICS-OS, or is there another command specifically designed for that purpose?