



Computer Architecture and Technology Area

Universidad Carlos III de Madrid

OPERATING SYSTEMS

Lab 2. Programming a shell (Minishell)

Bachelor's Degree in Computer Science & Engineering
Bachelor's Degree in Applied Mathematics & Computing
Dual Bachelor in Computer Science & Engineering & Business
Administration

Year 2023-2024

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Description

- Development of a minishell in UNIX/Linux in C language.
- It must implement:

- Execution of simple commands

```
ls, cp, mv, rm, [...].
```

- Execution of command sequences

```
ls | wc -l
```

```
ls | sort | wc -l
```

- Execution of simple commands or sequences in background (&)

```
ls &
```

- Execution of simple commands or sequences with input, output and error redirections.

```
cat | more < file
```

```
ls > file
```

```
ls | grep mine > my_inputs
```

```
make install !> output_error
```

Development process

1. Support for simple commands: `ls`, `cp`, `mv`, [...].
2. Support for simple commands in background (&).
3. Support for command sequences: `ls | wc -l`, [...].
4. Support for command sequences in background (&).
5. Support for redirections in simple commands and sequences (<, >, !>).
6. Internal command:
 - `mycalc`
 - `myhistory`

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Initial Code

- For the development of the programming assignment, an initial code is provided. This code can be downloaded from Aula Global.
- The files given are:

```
1 p2_minishell_23_24/  
2     Makefile  
3     libparser.so  
4     msh.c  
5     checker_os_p2.sh  
6     authors.txt
```

- To compile, simply execute `make`, and export the path for the dynamic library.

`export`

`LD_LIBRARY_PATH=/home/username/path:$LD_LIBRARY_PATH`

- The student must only **modify `msh.c` to include the asked functionality.**

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Command preprocessing

- For obtaining the commands, a syntactic analyzer is used. It checks if the commands sequence has the correct structure and allows you to get the content through a function:

```
int read_command(char ***argvv, char **filev, int *bg);
```

- Returns:

- 0 → If EOF (CTRL + C).
- -1 → When an error happens.
- n → Number of commands.

- Examples:

- `ls | sort` → Returns 2.
- `ls | sort > fich` → Returns 2.
- `ls | sort &` → Returns 2.
- `cat < input_file` → Returns 1.

read_command function

- The `read_command` function returns as first parameter:

`char *argvv`**

- Which is a structure that contains the commands introduced by the user
- Example:

- Print command located in position `i`:

`printf("Command i: %s \n", argvv[i][0]);`

- Print its first argument:

`printf("Arg 1 of command i: %s \n", argvv[i][1]);`

read_command function

- The function `read_command` returns as second parameter:

char **filev

- Which is a structure that contains the files used in the redirections or, if it does not exist, string with a zero ("0").
 - **filev[0]** String that contains the name of the file used for the input redirection (<)
 - **filev[1]** String that contains the name of the file used for the output redirection (>)
 - **filev[2]** String that contains the name of the file used for the error output redirection (! >)

read_command function

- The function `read_command` returns as third parameter:

`int *in_background`

- Which is a variable that indicates if the commands are executed in background
- Its values are:
 - **`in_background = 0`** → If it is not executed in background
 - **`in_background = 1`** → If it is executed in background (&)

read_command function

■ ls -l | sort < file

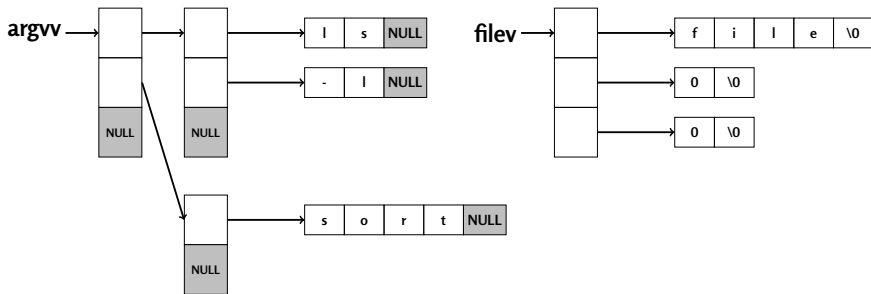


Figure: Data structure used by the parser.

File descriptors of a process

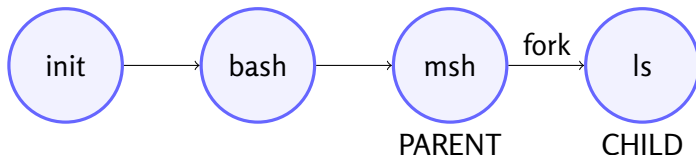
- In UNIX / Linux all processes have three opened file descriptors by default:
 1. Standard input (STDIN_FILENO): Value = 0
 2. Standard output (STDOUT_FILENO): Value = 1
 3. Standard error (STDERR_FILENO): Value = 2
- The commands executed in a shell are implemented to read and write from the standard input /output.
- It is possible to redirect the standard input/output to read/write using other files, or to read/write in a pipe.
- They are in the file descriptor table of a process when it is created:

0	STD_IN
1	STD_OUT
2	STD_ERR

Needed processes in the minishell

- The minishell is the parent process of all the new processes generated from it.
- Example of execution of the command `ls`.

```
1 bash> ./msh      #Minishell (msh) execution
2 msh> ls          #ls command executed through minishell
```



- Every new process created from the minishell (for example: `ls`) will be executed as its child process

Creation of processes with `fork()`

- It allows to generate a new process or child process that is an exact copy of the parent process: `pid_t fork()`. It returns:
 - **0** If it is the children.
 - **pid** If it is the parent.
- The child process inherits:
 - The values of signal manipulation.
 - The process class.
 - The segments of shared memory.
 - The masks of file creation, etc.
- The child process differs in:
 - The child has a new ID (each process ID is unique).
 - **It has a private copy of the files descriptors opened by the parent.**
 - The pending signals of the child process is empty.
 - The child does not inherit the established locks of the parent.

Example of creation of processes with fork()

```
1 #include <sys/types.h>
2 #include <unistd.h>
3 #include <stdio.h>
4
5 int main(){
6     int pid, status;
7     pid = fork();
8     switch(pid){
9         case -1: /* error */
10             perror ("Error in fork");
11             return -1;
12         case 0: /* child */
13             printf("The process CHILD sleeps 10 seconds\n");
14             sleep(10);
15             printf("End of process CHILD\n");
16             break;
17         default: /* parent */
18             if (wait(&status) == -1) //the parent waits for the child
19                 perror ("Error in the wait");
20             printf ("End of process PARENT\n");
21     }
22     exit(0);
23 }
```

Process execution with `execvp()`

- The function `execvp` replaces the process image with a new one. This new image corresponds to the command that you want to execute.

```
int execvp (const char *file, char *const argv[]);
```

- Arguments:
 - `file`: Path of the file that contains the command to be executed. If there is not path, it searches inside the `PATH`.
 - `argv[]`: List of available arguments for the new program. **The first argument must point to the name of the file that is going to be executed.**
- Return:
 - If the function returns something it is because an error has happened.
 - It returns `-1` and the error code is in the global variable `errno`.
 - The function never returns in a successful execution

Example of process execution with `execvp()`

```
1 #include <sys/types.h>
2 #include <unistd.h>
3 #include <stdio.h>
4
5 int main(){
6     int pid;
7     char *arguments[3] = {"ls", "-l", "NULL"};
8     pid = fork();
9     switch(pid){
10         case -1: /* error */
11             perror ("Error in fork");
12             return -1;
13         case 0: /* child */
14             execvp(arguments[0], arguments);
15             perror ("Error in exec. If the execution is correct this would never be
                executed");
16             break;
17         default: /* parent */
18             printf ("I am the parent process\n");
19     }
20     exit(0);
21 }
```

Finalization and waiting for processes

- The finalization of a process can be executed with:

```
        return status;  
        void exit(int status);  
        void abort(void); //Abnormal finalization of the  
                           process.
```

- The processes can wait to the finalization of other processes.

```
pid_t waitpid(pid_t pid, int *status, int options);
```

- Normally, parent processes always wait for its children to finalize.

```
pid_t wait(int *status);
```

- If a process finalizes and its parent process have not waited for it, the process goes to ZOMBIE state until the parent dies.

```
ps -axf → Visualize all processes, including zombie processes.
```

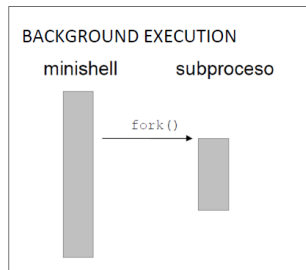
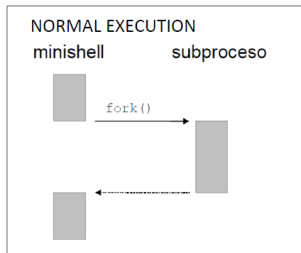
```
kill -9 <pid> → Kill (terminate) a process.
```

Example of finalization and process waiting

```
1 #include <sys/type.h>
2 #include <unistd.h>
3 #include <stdio.h>
4 #include <sys/wait.h>
5
6 int main(){
7     int pid, status;
8     char *arguments[3] = {"ls", "-l", "NULL"};
9     pid = fork();
10    switch(pid){
11        case -1: /* error */
12            perror ("Error in fork");
13            return -1;
14        case 0: /* child */
15            execvp(arguments[0], arguments);
16            perror ("Error in exec. If all is correct this should never be executed.");
17            break;
18        default: /* parent */
19            while ( wait(&status) != pid );
20            if ( status == 0 ) printf ("Normal execution of the child\n");
21            else printf ("Normal execution of the child\n");
22    }
23    exit(0);
24 }
```

Background execution

1. A command can be executed in background from the command line using `&` at the end. For example: `sleep 10 &`
2. In this case the parent process does not block, waiting for the finalization of the child process.
3. The command `fg <job_id>` let you get a process from background to foreground. It receives a job id, not a pid.



Process identifiers

- A process is *program in execution*
- All processes have a unique identifier. Two functions let you get that identifier:

```
pid_t getpid(void);  
pid_t getppid(void);
```

- An example:

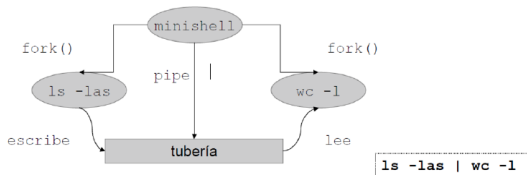
```
1 #include <sys/types.h>  
2 #include <stdio.h>  
3  
4 int main(){  
5     printf("Process identifier: %s\n", getpid());  
6     printf("Process identifier of the parent process: %s\n", getppid());  
7     return 0;  
8 }
```

Command sequences with pipes

- Command sequences are built using pipes: |. For example:

```
ls -las | wc -l
```

- The standard output of each command is connected to the standard input of the next one.
- The first command reads from the standard input (keyboard) if there is not an input redirection.
- The last command writes in the standard output (screen) if there is no output redirection.

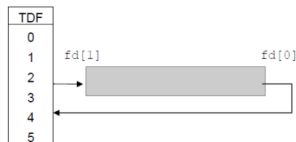


Creation of pipes with pipe()

- For the creation of pipes without name you have to use the function pipe.

```
#include <unistd.h>
int pipe(int descf[2])
```

- Returns:
 - -1 → If there is an error.
 - 0 → In any other case.
- It receives an array with the file descriptor for input and output.
 - descf[0] → Process input Descriptor (read).
 - descf[1] → Process output descriptor (write).



Functions dup y dup2

- The functions `dup` y `dup2` let you duplicate the file descriptors.

```
#include <unistd.h>
int dup(int oldfd);
int dup2(int oldfd, int newfd);
```

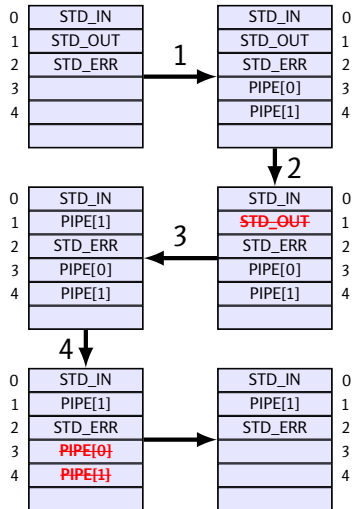
- The function `dup` uses the first descriptor available in the table when opening a file.

Tabla Descriptores	
0	STDIN
1	STDOUT
2	STDERR
3	./file_a
4	./file_b
5	
6	

```
#include <unistd.h>
#include <stdio.h>
int main() {
    int fd1, fd2, fd3;
    fd1 = open("./file_a", O_READ);
    fd2 = open("./file_b", O_READ);
    fd3 = dup(fd2);
}
```

Use of pipe + dup

1. `pipe` \rightarrow `pipe(pipe)`
2. `close` \rightarrow `close(STDOUT_FILENO)`
3. `dup` \rightarrow `dup(pipe[1])`
4. `close` \rightarrow `close(pipe[0])`
`close(pipe[1])`

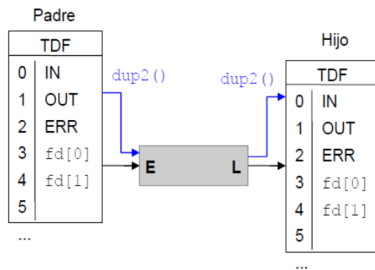


Example of pipe use

```

1  int main(int argc, char *argv[])
2  {
3      int fd[2];
4      char *args1[2] = {"more", "NULL"};
5      char *args2[3] = {"ls", "NULL"};
6      pipe(fd);
7      if(fork() == 0)
8      {
9          close(STDIN_FILENO);
10         dup(fd[0]);
11         close(fd[1]);
12         execvp(args1[0], args1);
13     } else
14     {
15         close(STDOUT_FILENO);
16         dup(fd[1]);
17         close(fd[0]);
18         execvp(args2[0], args2);
19     }
20     printf("ERROR: %d\n", errno);
21 }

```



Input, output and error redirections

- System call `open` uses the first file descriptor available in the files table.
- It is possible to redirect the input/output to write/read from other files.
- The input redirection (`<`) only affects the first command.
- Example: Opens a file in read mode and uses it as standard input.

```
close (STDIN_FILENO);  
df = open ("./input_file", O_RDONLY);
```

Input, output and error redirections

- The output redirection (>) only redirects the last command.
- Example: opens a file in write mode and uses it as standard output.

```
close (STDOUT_FILENO);  
df = open ("./output_file", O_CREAT | O_WRONLY, 0666);
```

- The redirection of the standard error (!>) affects all commands.
- Example: Opens a file in write mode and use it as standard error.

```
close (STDERR_FILENO);  
df = open ("./error_output", O_CREAT | O_WRONLY, 0666);
```

Error control

- When a system call fails, it returns **-1**. The error code is inside the global variable `errno`.
- Inside the file `errno.h` you can find all the possible values that it can take.
- To access to the error code there are two possibilities:
 - Use `errno` as an index to access to the chain `sys_errlist[]`.
 - Use the library function `perror()`. See `man 3 perror`.
- `perror` prints the received message as parameter and prints the message associated to the code of the last error occurred during a system call.

```
1  #include <stdio.h>
2  void perror (const char *s);
```

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Internal commands

- An internal command is a command that correspond to a system call or is a complement offered by the minishell.
- Its function must be implemented inside the minishell.
- The command input must be analyzed. **The parser does not do it.**
- It must be executed inside the process minishell.
- **They are not part of the command sequences.**
- **They do not have file redirections.**
- **They are not executed in background.**

mycalc

- The minishell must offer the following internal command `mycalc` whose syntax is:

`mycalc <operand_1> <add/mul/div> <operand_2>`

- For this purpose:
 1. Check that the syntax is correct.
 2. Execute the selected operations: sum (add), multiplication (mul) or division (div).
 3. Show the results on the screen.
 - Correct case by **standard error output**.
 - Error by **standard output**.
- The “add” operation has an “Acc” environment variable that accumulates the results of the sums performed, but not of the multiplications and divisions.

mycalc

```
1 msh>> mycalc 3 add -8
2 [OK] 3 + -8 = -5; Acc -5
3 msh>> mycalc 5 add 13
4 [OK] 5 + 13 = 18; Acc 13
5 msh>> mycalc 4 mul 8
6 [OK] 4 * 8 = 32
7 msh>> mycalc 10 div 7
8 [OK] 10 / 7 = 1; Remainder 3
9 msh>> mycalc 10 / 7
10 [ERROR] The structure of the command is mycalc <operand_1> <
    add/mul/div> <operand_2>
11 msh>> mycalc 8 mas
12 [ERROR] The structure of the command is mycalc <operand_1> <
    add/mul/div> <operand_2>
```

myhistory

- The minishell must offer the following internal command `myhistory` whose syntax is:

`myhistory`

`myhistory <N>`

myhistory

- For this purpose:
 1. Check that the syntax is correct.
 2. If it is executed without arguments, it will show by the **standard error output** a list with the last 20 commands introduced with the following format:

<N> <command>

3. If it is executed with an argument, the associated command in the list will be executed and the following message will be shown in the **standard error output**:

Running command <N>

4. If the command number does not exist, the following message will be shown on the **standard output**:

ERROR: Command not found

myhistory

■ Provided:

1. The variable `run_history` indicates whether the next command to be executed comes from the internal command `myhistory`
2. The structure `command`
3. The `store_command` function: copy the introduced command
4. The `free_command` function: frees the resources used by the structure

myhistory

```
1 msh>> myhistory
2 0 ls
3 1 ls | grep a
4 2 ls | grep b &
5 3 ls | grep c > out.txt &
6 msh>> myhistory 0
7 Running command 0
8 file.txt file2.txt
9 msh>> myhistory 27
10 ERROR: Command not found
```

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Tester

- Students are provided with the shell-script **checker_os_p2.sh**
- The tester must be executed in the Linux computers of the Virtual Aulas of the university.
- To run it, you must give execution permissions to the file using:

```
chmod +x checker_os_p2.sh
```

- And run with:

```
./checker_os_p2.sh <zip_file>
```

- Example:

```
$ ./checker_os_p2.sh ssoo_p2_100254896_100047014.zip
```

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Assignment Submission & Rules

- Groups: 3 students maximum
- Delivery:
 - Source code in a compressed file
 - Lab report in PDF through TURNITIN
 - Only one member of the group may deliver
- Delivery date:

April 12th 2024 (until 23:55h)



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