BD-shell

Introduction

BD-shell (a.k.a. bdsh) is a tiny unix shell written in C. This document describes its functionalities and presents some user interactions with the program which cover all the requirements of the course.

Bdsh has been tested with a very useful program written for the DSA course, with some light modifications. It is a benchmark written in C that measures the insertion of 20000 numbers in two hash tables. At the end of the benchmark, the program asks the user to input a char, then exits. The executable of the program is called "hash_benchmark" and needs about 10 seconds of computations before the user input.

Some Numbers

Lines of Code (LOC): 463

Lines of Comment (COM): 312

How many times a System Call was used: 47

System Calls used: exit, open, close, dup2, execvp, fork, signal, setpgrp, tcsetpgrp, setpgid, kill, waitpid, chdir, getenv, getpid, tcgetpgrp, getpgrp,

Signals Involved: SIGINT, SIGQUIT, SIGTSTP, SIGCHLD, SIGTTIN, SIGCONT, SIGQUIT, SIGTTOU

Signal handlers: 1

First Run

This is what the user sees after the shell execution:

```
Naamah:~ bodom_lx$ ./bdsh

Welcome to BD-shell version 1.0.0
This is bdsh with process id: 981

bodom_lx - /Users/bodom_lx j: 0>
```

A little welcome screen prints out the name of the shell, its version and the pid it is assigned by the Operating System (will be called OS from this point). The last line is the prompt divided in this way:

user name – current working directory j: number of jobs launched not yet terminated>

Functionalities and user interactions

To describe the functionalities of bdsh, I am going to use the official requirements of the course as main points (http://www.inf.unibz.it/~david/os/project.html).

Use, combine, and extend the programs you wrote for LAB 1 and LAB 2 to a mini-shell that is able to do the following:

To read commands from standard input and execute them in a loop until a built-in command exit is issued (we call these processes the foreground processes; there is always at most one of these at any particular time);

To execute a command, user has to write its name and hit the return key.

Be able to redirect the standard input and output of commands by prefixing them with builtin commands in file and out file;

It is possible to either redirect STDIN or STDOUT. The function that does the job is ready to redirect both of them at the same time, but the function that manages the user input does not handle it. EXTRA: it is possible to perform the same operations in background, by prefixing them with "bg"

```
bodom_lx - /Users/bodom_lx j: 0> out files.txt ls
bodom_lx - /Users/bodom_lx j: 0> in files.txt cat
Desktop
Documents
Downloads
Library
Movies
Music
Pictures
Public
Sites
bdsh
bdsh.odt
files.txt
bodom_lx - /Users/bodom_lx j: 0>
```

Be able to terminate (involuntarily) the foreground process when user presses ^C and return back to the mini-shell;

```
bodom_lx - /Users/bodom_lx j: 0> hash_benchmark

Cycle 1 - Numbers interested in this cycle: from 0 to 20000

Successful searches:

Average Probes for Hash Table with Chaining: 1.138600

Average Probes for Hash Table with Linear probing: 2.910150

Cbodom_lx - /Users/bodom_lx j: 0>
```

Be able to interrupt the foreground process temporarily, when user presses ^Z, returning to the mini-shell;

Like the famous bash shell does, when the foreground process is interrupted, the user is informed with the job id and its name:

```
bodom_lx - /Users/bodom_lx j: 0> hash_benchmark

Cycle 1 - Numbers interested in this cycle: from 0 to 20000

Successful searches:

Average Probes for Hash Table with Chaining: 1.138600
Average Probes for Hash Table with Linear probing: 2.910150

^Z[1]+ stopped hash_benchmark
bodom_lx - /Users/bodom_lx j: 1>
```

The number of jobs launched, not yet terminated is increased, too

Be able to execute any number of processes in background (i.e., in parallel with the foreground process), including in particular, the ability to start another process while a process has been temporarily suspended;

To execute a program in background, it is necessary to prefix it with the built-in command bg. In the following user interaction, the user executes "hash_benchmark" in background, then executes "ls", executes "hash_benchmark" in foreground and suspends it, having the first command still in background and another command stopped (j is 2). After the job suspension, another "ls" is executed and the first process launched in background exits normally.

```
bodom_lx - /Users/bodom_lx j: 0> bg hash_benchmark
[1] 2126
           Cycle 1 - Numbers interested in this cycle: from 0 to 20000
Successful searches:
      Average Probes for Hash Table with Chaining: 1.138600
      Average Probes for Hash Table with Linear probing: 2.910150
bodom_lx - /Users/bodom_lx j: 1> ls
Desktop Downloads Movies Pictures Sites bdsh.odt
Documents Library Music Public bdsh files.txt
                                                                   files.txt
bodom_lx - /Users/bodom_lx j: 1> hash_benchmark
          Cycle 1 - Numbers interested in this cycle: from 0 to 20000
Successful searches:
      Average Probes for Hash Table with Chaining: 1.138600
      Average Probes for Hash Table with Linear probing: 2.910150
^Z[2]+ stopped hash_benchmark
bodom_lx - /Users/bodom_lx j: 2> ls
Desktop Downloads Movies Pictures
Documents Library Music Public
                                                      Sites
                                                                  bdsh.odt
                                                                   files.txt
Average Probes for Hash Table with Linear probing: 20000.00000
input a char:
you did not write 'c'
[1]+ Done hash_benchmark
bodom_lx - /Users/bodom_lx j: 1>
```

Inform the user when the background process finishes or is waiting for an input from the terminal;

The last user interaction covers the first point. If a background process is waiting for an input from the terminal, the process is suspended, marked as "waiting for input" (W) and the user is warned:

```
bodom_lx - /Users/bodom_lx j: 0> bg hash_benchmark
[1] 7135
          Cycle 1 - Numbers interested in this cycle: from 0 to 20000
Successful searches:
     Average Probes for Hash Table with Chaining: 1.138600
     Average Probes for Hash Table with Linear probing: 2.910150
bodom_lx - /Users/bodom_lx j: 1>
bodom_lx - /Users/bodom_lx j: 1> Unsuccessful searches:
      Average Probes for Hash Table with Chaining: 0.928050
     Average Probes for Hash Table with Linear probing: 20000.000000
input a char:
[1]+ suspended [wants input] hash_benchmark
bodom_lx - /Users/bodom_lx j: 1> jobs
Active jobs:
|job no. name
                     pid descriptor status|
| [1] hash_benchmark 7135 STANDARD W |
bodom_lx - /Users/bodom_lx j: 1>
```

Be able to inform the user what commands are executing in the background by issuing the built-in command jobs, this should include information about the state of the process (i.e., suspended, background, waiting for input, etc.) and about what file(s) is the background process using for standard input and output);

A very nice table is printed out when the jobs command is issued. In this user interaction, two commands had been given, both "hash_benchmark", the first was suspended by the user, the second was launched in background:

The table is self-explanatory.

Be able to terminate involuntarily a background processes by issuing the built-in command kill job-number.

The possibility to terminate a stopped process were also implemented:

```
bodom_lx - /Users/bodom_lx j: 2> jobs
Active jobs:
| job no. name pid descriptor status|
| [1] hash_benchmark 2870 STANDARD S | [2] hash_benchmark 2873 STANDARD B |
bodom_lx - /Users/bodom_lx j: 2> kill 1
[1]+ KILLED hash_benchmark
bodom_lx - /Users/bodom_lx j: 1> jobs
Active jobs:
| job no. name pid descriptor status|
| [2] hash_benchmark 2873 STANDARD B |
bodom_lx - /Users/bodom_lx j: 1> kill 2
[2]+ KILLED hash_benchmark
bodom_lx - /Users/bodom_lx j: 0> jobs
Active jobs:
                   pid descriptor status|
|job no. name
                                     1
No Jobs
bodom_lx - /Users/bodom_lx j: 0>
```

To be able to resume a process or to make a background process into the foreground process (i.e., the one that currently interacts with the terminal) by issuing the fg job-number command.

In this example, the user first makes a background process into the foreground process, then resumes a suspended process. Process waiting for input may also be resumed.

```
bodom_lx - /Users/bodom_lx j: 2> jobs
Active jobs:
| job no. name pid descriptor status|
| [1] hash_benchmark 2982 STANDARD S | [2] hash_benchmark 2985 STANDARD B |
bodom_lx - /Users/bodom_lx j: 2> fg 2
Unsuccessful searches:
    Average Probes for Hash Table with Chaining: 0.928050
     Average Probes for Hash Table with Linear probing: 20000.00000
input a char:
you did not write 'c'
bodom_lx - /Users/bodom_lx j: 1> jobs
Active jobs:
| job no. name pid descriptor status|
| [1] hash_benchmark 2982 STANDARD S |
bodom_lx - /Users/bodom_lx j: 1> fg 1
Unsuccessful searches:
    Average Probes for Hash Table with Chaining: 0.928050
     Average Probes for Hash Table with Linear probing: 20000.00000
input a char:
you did not write 'c'
bodom_lx - /Users/bodom_lx j: 0> jobs
Active jobs:
|job no. name pid descriptor status|
No Jobs
bodom_lx - /Users/bodom_lx j: 0>
```