CS 33

Shells and Files

Shells







- Command and scripting languages for Unix
- First shell: Thompson shell
 - sh, developed by Ken Thompson
 - released in 1971
- Bourne shell
 - also sh, developed by Steve Bourne
 - released in 1977
- C shell
 - csh, developed by Bill Joy
 - released in 1978
 - tcsh, improved version by Ken Greer

More Shells







Bourne-Again Shell

- bash, developed by Brian Fox
- released in 1989
- found to have a serious security-related bug in 2014
 - » shellshock

Almquist Shell

- ash, developed by Kenneth Almquist
- released in 1989
- similar to bash
- dash (debian ash) used for scripts in Debian and Ubuntu Linux
 - » faster than bash
 - » less susceptible to shellshock vulnerability

The File Abstraction

- A file is a simple array of bytes
- A file is made larger by writing beyond its current end
- Files are named by paths in a naming tree
- System calls on files are synchronous

Naming

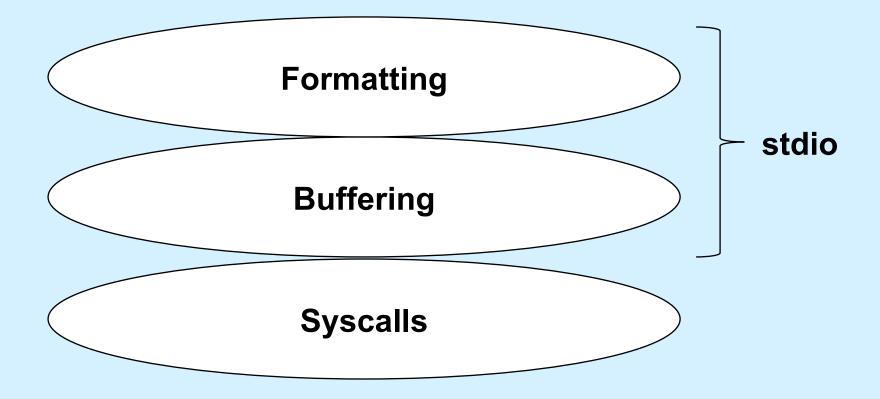
- (almost) everything has a path name
 - files
 - directories
 - devices (known as special files)
 - » keyboards
 - » displays
 - » disks
 - » etc.

I/O System Calls

- int file_descriptor = open(pathname, mode [, permissions])
- int close(file_descriptor)
- int count = read(file_descriptor, buffer_address, buffer_size)
- int count = write(file_descriptor, buffer_address, buffer_size)

Uniformity

Standard I/O Library



Standard File Descriptors

```
int main() {
  char buf[BUFSIZE];
  int n;
  const char *note = "Write failed\n";

while ((n = read(0, buf, sizeof(buf))) > 0)
  if (write(1, buf, n) != n) {
      write(2, note, strlen(note));
      exit(1);
   }
  return(0);
}
```

A Program

```
int main(int argc, char *argv[]) {
  if (argc != 2) {
    fprintf(stderr, "Usage: echon reps\n");
   exit(0);
  int reps = atoi(argv[1]);
  if (reps > 2) {
    fprintf(stderr, "reps too large, reduced to 2\n");
   reps = 2;
  char buf[256];
  while (fgets(buf, 256, stdin) != NULL)
    for (int i=0; i<reps; i++)
      fputs (buf, stdout);
  return(0);
```

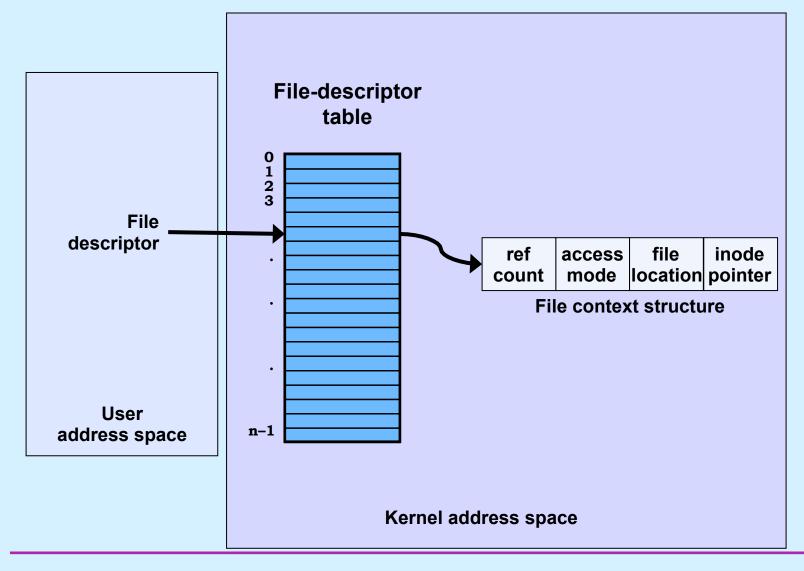
From the Shell ...

- \$ echon 1
 - stdout and stderr go to the display
 - stdin comes from the keyboard
- \$ echon 1 > Output
 - stdout goes to the file "Output" in the current directory
 - stderr goes to the display
 - stdin comes from the keyboard
- \$ echon 1 < Input
 - stdin comes from the file "Input" in the current directory

Running It

```
if (fork() == 0) {
  /* set up file descriptor 1 in the child process */
  close(1);
  if (open("/home/twd/Output", O WRONLY) == -1) {
     perror("/home/twd/Output");
     exit(1);
  char *arqv[] = {"echon", "2", NULL};
  execv("/home/twd/bin/echon", argv);
  exit(1);
/* parent continues here */
```

File-Descriptor Table



Allocation of File Descriptors

 Whenever a process requests a new file descriptor, the lowest-numbered file descriptor not already associated with an open file is selected; thus

```
#include <fcntl.h>
#include <unistd.h>

close(0);
fd = open("file", O_RDONLY);
```

 will always associate *file* with file descriptor 0 (assuming that the *open* succeeds)

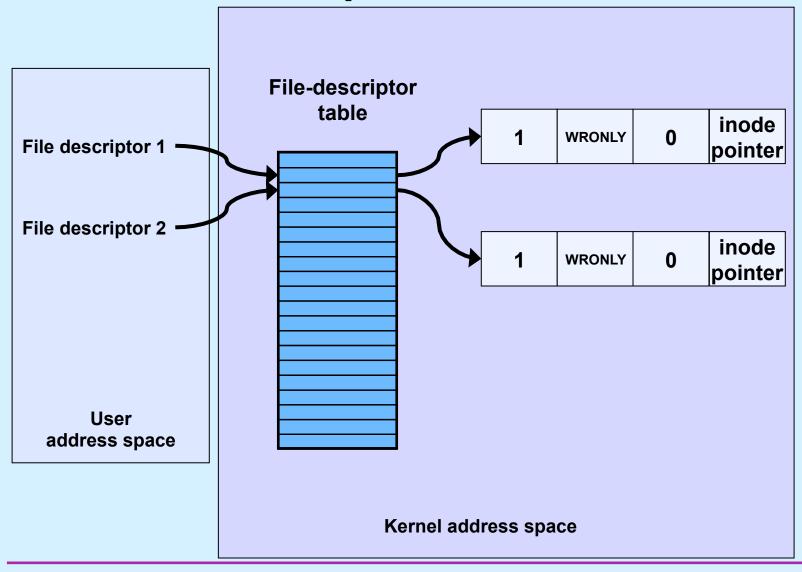
Redirecting Output ... Twice

```
if (fork() == 0) {
   /* set up file descriptors 1 and 2 in the child process */
   close(1);
   close(2);
   if (open("/home/twd/Output", O WRONLY) == -1) {
      exit(1);
   if (open("/home/twd/Output", O WRONLY) == -1) {
      exit(1);
   char *arqv[] = {"echon", 2, NULL};
   execv("/home/twd/bin/echon", argv);
   exit(1);
/* parent continues here */
```

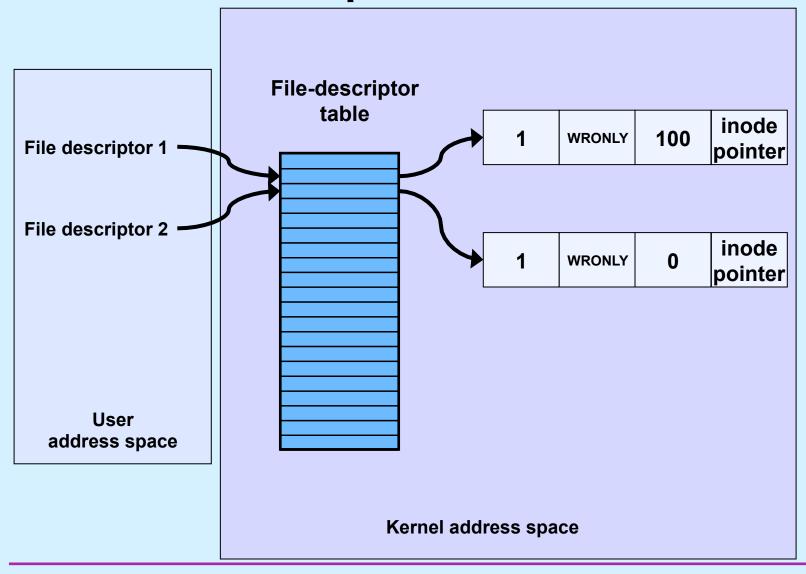
From the Shell ...

- \$ echon 1 >Output 2>Output
 - both stdout and stderr go to Output file

Redirected Output



Redirected Output After Write



Quiz 1

Suppose we run

% echon 3 >Output 2>Output

The input line is

Χ

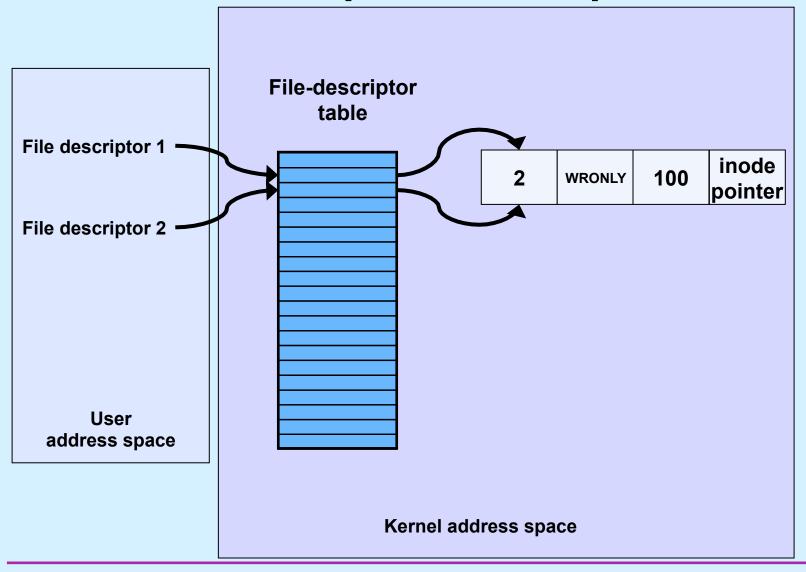
What is the final content of Output?

- a) reps too large, reduced to 2\nX\nX\n
- b) X\nX\nreps too large, reduced to 2\n
- c) X\nX\n too large, reduced to 2\n

Sharing Context Information

```
if (fork() == 0) {
   /* set up file descriptors 1 and 2 in the child process */
   close(1);
   close(2);
   if (open("/home/twd/Output", O WRONLY) == -1) {
      exit(1);
   dup(1); /* set up file descriptor 2 as a duplicate of 1 */
   char *argv[] = {"echon", 2};
   execv("/home/twd/bin/echon", argv);
   exit(1);
/* parent continues here */
```

Redirected Output After Dup



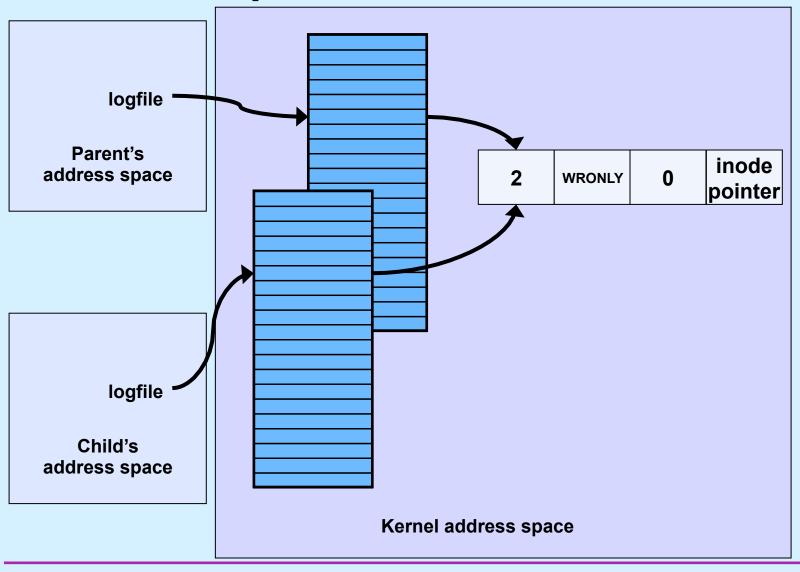
From the Shell ...

- \$ echon 3 >Output 2>&1
 - stdout goes to Output file, stderr is the dup of fd 1

Fork and File Descriptors

```
int logfile = open("log", O_WRONLY);
if (fork() == 0) {
    /* child process computes something, then does: */
    write(logfile, LogEntry, strlen(LogEntry));
    ...
    exit(0);
}
/* parent process computes something, then does: */
write(logfile, LogEntry, strlen(LogEntry));
...
```

File Descriptors After Fork



Quiz 2

```
int main() {
  if (fork() == 0) {
    fprintf(stderr, "Child");
    exit(0);
  }
  printf("Parent");
}
```

Suppose the program is run as:

```
% prog >file 2>&1
```

What is the final content of file?

- a) either "ChildParent" or "ParentChild"
- b) either "Childt" or "Parent"
- c) either "Child" or "Parent"