PA2 Part 2: Extending the Shell



PA₂

Goal

- Final goal of this assignment is to create a shell with redirection and pipe support.
- For now, we will extend our shell by
 - » Pipe and redirection support
 - » Job control
 - » Using concepts like process groups, sessions, background processes, etc.
 - » Handling signals
 - » Adding other built-in commands (bg, fg, kill, cd, exit, and pwd)
- Hint:

https://www.gnu.org/software/libc/manual/html_node/Implementing-a-Shell.html (don't copy the code)

PA₂

- Supplement resources/guides (don't copy the code)
 - https://www.gnu.org/software/libc/manual/html_no de/Implementing-a-Shell.html
 - https://www.linusakesson.net/programming/tty/
 - » Focuses on tty, which we will not learn, instead of shell, but explains job control and signals very well.



Shell

- A shell reads user input, evaluates the input, and then return the result.
 - » When evaluating the input, the shell can first lex the input, and then parse the result to easily execute the commands.
- For PA2, you will be implementing a shell that is heavily based on bash.
 - » Thus, you can use bash to test the behaviour of your shell but note that not all features in bash are found in your shell (e.g. variables, expansion, "~", etc.).

Grammar

The inputs passed to the shell follow this grammar:

Grammar is in EBNF ([...] = optional, | = or, {...} = ...*)

Input

- User enters input up to 200 bytes.
- This input can contain whitespace, but it is ignored.
- Before being processed, this input can be lexed and parsed.
 - » An example function to lex/tokenize the input can be found in the skeleton code for week 8.

Unknown command

• If the shell encounters an unknown command, it should print "COMMAND: command not found"

Pipeline

- Set of concurrent processes called subprocesses that are connected through standard streams
 - » \$ command1 | command2 | command3
 - » command1's output is command2's input
 - » command2's output is command3's input
 - » These processes are independent
 - » `\$ echo 1 | cat | exit | echo 2 | cat` returns 2 and does not exit the shell. exit only exits the subprocess.
 - » Do not run these commands "sequentially"; first create a process for each command and wait for all of them to finish
- Implemented using pipes
- Associated with a job.

Redirection

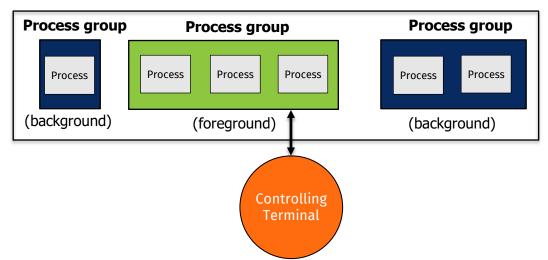
- Input redirection (<)
 - » Replaces standard input of process with file in [pathname]
- Output redirection (>, >>)
 - » Replaces standard output of process with file in [pathname]
 - » If redirected with >, the file is initialized and rewritten
 - » If redirected with >>, append from the end of file (if it exists)
- If an error occurs due to the file, print "SHELL_NAME: pathname: strerr(errno)"

Job Control



Session (recall)

- Collection of one or more process groups
 - Session can have a single terminal
 - » This terminal is called a controlling terminal
 - Process group within a session can be divided into:
 - » A single foreground process group
 - » One or more background process groups



Jobs

Terminology

- Job: "A set of processes, comprising a shell pipeline, and any processes descended from it, that are all in the same process group." - POSIX Issue 7
- Job can be a background group or foreground group.
- Job can have one or more concurrent process(es) via a pipeline (|).
- A job table is used to keep track of all the jobs, which has a limit of 8192.
- Note that this means that shell PGID != Job PGID.

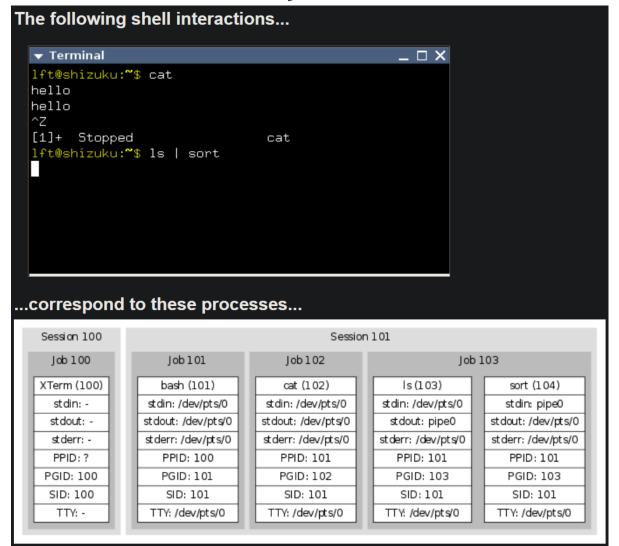
Jobs

This is how bash holds processes and jobs in the actual code. (jobs.h). This is just to give you an idea on how it is done in actual applications.

```
typedef struct process {
 struct process *next; /* Next process in the pipeline. A circular chain. */
            /* Process ID. */
pid t pid;
WAIT status; /* The status of this command as returned by wait. */
int running; /* Non-zero if this process is running. */
char *command; /* The particular program that is running. */
} PROCESS;
typedef struct job {
char *wd; /* The working directory at time of invocation. */
 PROCESS *pipe; /* The pipeline of processes that make up this job. */
pid t pgrp; /* The process ID of the process group (necessary). */
 JOB STATE state; /* The state that this job is in. */
int flags; /* Flags word: J NOTIFIED, J FOREGROUND, or J JOBCONTROL. */
#if defined (JOB CONTROL)
COMMAND *deferred; /* Commands that will execute when this job is done. */
 sh vptrfunc t *j cleanup; /* Cleanup function to call when job marked JDEAD */
PTR_T cleanarg; /* Argument passed to (*j_cleanup)() */
#endif /* JOB CONTROL */
                                                                                                          13
} JOB;
```

Jobs

Taken from "The TTY demystified"



Foreground processes

Synchronous commands

- Normal jobs that run in the foreground and control the terminal -> the shell no longer runs in the foreground.
- \$ grep aladdin Aladdin.txt | sort > sorted.txt
 - » This single job will run in the foreground.
 - » Each command in the pipeline is referred to as a subprocess.
 - » The first subprocess is the process group leader, but all subcommands are running simultaneously.
- The exit status is the status of the last command.

Foreground processes

- int tcsetpgrp(int fd, pid_t pgrp);
 - Sets the given **pgid** as the foreground process group with the controlling terminal associated with **fd**
 (i.e. STDIN_FILENO)
 - Has to be called in both parent and child processes.
 - The shell has to regain the controlling terminal after the child has been terminated or stopped.
 - Returns **SIGTTOU** signal to the shell, which will stop it, so it has to be ignored by the shell.
 - A bit tricky to use --- an example code will be added soon

Background processes

- & (asynchronous commands)
 - & can be added to the end of a job to make run in the background (i.e. shell does not wait for the job to finish)
 - \$ grep aladdin Aladdin.txt | sort > sorted.txt &
 - » This single job will run in the background.
 - It will print "[JOB ID] LAST_PROCESS_PID" (i.e. [1] 100)
 - Returns 0 as an exit status

Signals

Signals

- Recall that signals are sent to all processes in the process group.
- If a job is currently running, the shell is running in the background, so it will not receive the signal.
- However, it will still receive SIGCHLD, which means a child has been stopped or terminated.
 - » This signal can be used to handle (completed/stopped) jobs.
- You can use the macros **WIFEXITED**, **WIFSIGNALED** along with **WTERMSIG**, and **WIFSTOPPED** along with **WSTOPSIG** to determine if the process has terminated without a signal, terminated due to a signal like SIGINT, or stopped due to a signal like SIGTSTP.

Signals

Signals

- A shell should not terminate or stop when these signals are received by the shell:
 - » SIGINT, SIGQUIT, SIGTSTP, SIGTTIN, SIGTTOU.
- However, the child processes should still receive these signals (SIG_DFL).



Synopsis

bg [JOB NUMBER...]

Description

- "bg sends jobs to the background, resuming them if they are stopped"
- If JOB NUMBER is not passed, the most recent job would be put in the background.
- JOB NUMBER format: %1, %2, %3, etc.

Error

- If there are no jobs that can be put in the background, print "SHELL_NAME: bg: current: no such job"
- If the given job is invalid, print "SHELL_NAME: bg: JOB NUMBER: no such job" (still run other valid jobs in bg)



Synopsis

fg [JOB NUMBER]

Description

- fg sends a "job to the foreground, resuming them if it is stopped"
- If JOB NUMBER is not passed, the most recent job would be put in the foreground.
- JOB NUMBER format: %1, %2, %3, etc.

Error

- If there are no jobs that can be put in the foreground, print "SHELL_NAME: fg: current: no such job"
- If the given job is invalid, print "SHELL_NAME: fg: JQB NUMBER: no such job"

jobs

Synopsis

jobs

Description

- "jobs prints a list of the currently running jobs and their status"
- Format for each job: [JOB ID]SYMBOL STATE COMMAND

```
» i.e. [1]+ Running sleep 10 &
```

SYMBOL:

- » + -> Current/most recent job (i.e., if you call fg, this job will be called)
- » -> The second-most recent job
- » NONE -> Other jobs

pwd

Synopsis

pwd [OPTION]

Description

- Outputs the current working directory
- -L prints logical directory (getenv("PWD"))
- -P prints physical directory (getcwd())
- Prints the logical directory by default

pwd

- char *getcwd(char buf[.size], size_t size);
 - Gets working directory
 - Return value:
 - » Pointer to string on success. (should be buf)
 - » NULL with errno on failure
 - Size can be set to PATH_MAX (limits.h), which is usually set to 4096 bytes.

CC

Synopsis

cd [DIRECTORY]

Description

- "cd changes the current working directory"
- If DIRECTORY is not passed, change the directory to the home directory (i.e., getenv("HOME"))

Errors

 When directory does not exist, "SHELLNAME: cd: DIRECTORY: No such file or directory"

cd

- int chdir(const char *path);
 - Changes working directory to path.
 - Return value: On success, 0. On error, -1 with errno.
 - Possible Errors:
 - » EACCES: not enough search (execute) permissions for one of the ancestors of path.
 - » ENOENT: directory does not exist
 - » ENOTDIR: ancestor in path is not a directory

exit

Synopsis

exit [CODE]

Description

- exits the shell
- Exit with CODE if given. If CODE >= 255, exit with 255.
- Otherwise, exit with the exit status of the last command executed (usually 0, but not always).

Errors

- When code is not a number, `SHELL_NAME: CODE: numeric argument required` and exit with status of 2
- When more than one argument is passed, print `SHELL NAME: exit: too many arguments`