

Question 2: check if process exists

1. Listed in the code. We use system call 'kill' command and pass the process id and 0 as parameters.
3 possible results:

- EPERM=exists but we have no permission.
- ESRCH=doesn't exist.
- Process exists.

Pros and cons of method number 1:

pros: The kill method is safe if and only if the process you're testing for is your child process.

Cons: There is a possibility that target process has exited and in the meantime another process with the same pid has been started. or the process may end very quickly and a decision on outdated information may occur.

2. manually check if process with this id exists: run 'top' command in the shell and locate the desired process by id.

Pros and cons of method number 2:

pros: no room for mistake - all available process running on the system presented on the screen + no need for root access to run command.

Cons: clumsy method which may take sometime if there are many processes running on the system.

3. open terminal and manually run the command `kill -0 $pid`.

Pros and cons of method number 3:

pros: very easy to apply. Open the terminal and run command upon desired id of a process.

Cons: The same cons as in method 1 + suppose the user needs to check many process if they exist or not, thus there will be a lot of manual and clumsy work.