



UNIVERSITY OF REGINA

CS330-001
**INTRODUCTION TO
OPERATING
SYSTEMS**

andreeds.github.io

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INTRODUCTION TO
OPERATING SYSTEMS

PROGRAMMING MESSAGE QUEUES

C

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DATA STRUCTURES

- The kernel maintains a data structure for every message queue in the system

```
#include <sys/msg.h>
```

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DATA STRUCTURES

- Part of this data structure keeps track of permissions (like those used for files)

```
struct msgqid_ds
{
    struct ipc_perm msgperm;    /* Operation permission structure */
    struct msg *msg_first;      /* Pointer to first message in queue */
    struct msg *msg_last;       /* Pointer to last message in queue */
    msglen_t msg_cbytes;        /* Current number of bytes in queue */
    msgqnum_t msg_qnum;         /* Number of messages in queue */
    msglen_t msg_qbytes;        /* Maximum number of bytes in queue */
    pid_t msg_lspid;            /* Process ID of last msgsnd () */
    pid_t msg_lrpid;           /* Process ID of last msgrcv () */
    time_t msg_stime;           /* Time of last msgsnd () */
    time_t msg_rtime;           /* Time of last msgrcv () */
    time_t msg_ctime;           /* Time of last change */
    short msg_cv;               /* Internal condition variable */
    short msg_qnum_cv;          /* Internal condition variable */
};
```

ELEMENTARY SYSTEM CALLS

The `msgget` system call is used to create a **new**, or **access** an existing, **message queue**

```
#include <sys/msg.h>
int msgget (key_t key, int msgflag);
```

- The first parameter, `key`, designates the particular object to be created or accessed, and can be created by:
 - Letting the system pick the key (`IPC_PRIVATE`)
 - Picking the key directly by storing it in a header
- The third parameter, `msgflag`, specifies the access permissions for the message queue segment
- If successful, `msgget` returns a non-negative integer corresponding to the **message queue identifier**
 - Similar to a file descriptor
- If unsuccessful, `msgget` returns **-1** and sets `errno`

ELEMENTARY SYSTEM CALLS

alloc_m_q.c

URCourses

```
#include <stdio.h>
#include <unistd.h>
#include <stdlib.h>
#include <sys/msg.h>

#define MESSAGE_KEY ((key_t) 7890)

int main ()
{
    int messageID;
    int messagePermissions;
```

SHELL COMMANDS

There are two shell commands for working with message queue segments:

- `ipcs`: View the status of a shared memory segment
- `ipcrm`: Remove a message queue segment
- Example – Removing a shared memory segment
 - `ipcrm -q 0`
 - `0` is the `msgid` from `ipcs` and is equal to segmentID

ELEMENTARY SYSTEM CALLS

The `msgsnd` system call appends a new message to the end of a message queue

```
#include <sys/msg.h>
int msgsnd (int msgqid, const void *msg, size_t msgsz,
            int msgflag);
```

- The first parameter, `msgqid`, is the identifier for an existing message queue
- The second parameter, `msg`, is a pointer to a user-defined structure containing a message type and the actual text part of the message

```
struct myMsg
{
    long myType;
    char myText [1];
};
```

- The third parameter, `msgsz`, is the length of the actual text part of the message
- The fourth parameter, `msgflag`, determines what happens if the message queue is full
 - set it to `0` to indicate that the process should block until there is room in the message queue
- If **successful**, `msgsnd` returns `0`
- If unsuccessful, `msgsnd` returns `-1` and sets `errno`

ELEMENTARY SYSTEM CALLS

send_m_q.c

URCourses

```
#include <stdio.h>
#include <unistd.h>
#include <stdlib.h>
#include <sys/msg.h>
#include <string.h>

#define MESSAGE_KEY ((key_t) 7890)

typedef struct
{
    long myType;
    char myText [1];
} myMsg;
```

ELEMENTARY SYSTEM CALLS

The `msgrcv` system call reads a message from a message queue

```
#include <sys/msg.h>
ssize_t msgrcv (int msgqid, void *msg, size_t msgsz, long msgtype,
                int msgflag);
```

- `msgqid` is the identifier for an existing message queue
- `msg` is a pointer to a user-defined structure containing a message type and the actual text part of the message.

```
struct myMsg
{
    long myType;
    char myText [1];
};
```

- `msgsz` is the maximum length of the data that can be stored in `msg`
- `msgtype` determines which message is read from the message queue
- `msgflag` determines the action that should be taken if the requested message is not available
- If successful, `msgrcv` returns the **number of bytes in the text part of the message**
- If unsuccessful, `msgrcv` returns **-1** and sets `errno`

ELEMENTARY SYSTEM CALLS

send_m_q.c

URCourses

```
#include <stdio.h>
#include <unistd.h>
#include <stdlib.h>
#include <sys/msg.h>
#include <string.h>

#define MESSAGE_KEY ((key_t) 7890)

typedef struct
{
    long myType;
    char myText [1];
} myMsg;
```

ELEMENTARY SYSTEM CALLS

The `msgctl` system call performs a **control operation** on a message queue.

```
#include <sys/msg.h>
int msgctl (int msgqid, int operation, struct msgqid_ds *buffer);
```

- `msgqid` is the identifier for a message queue
- `operation` specifies one of five valid operations
 - e.g.
 - `IPC_STAT`: Place a copy of the kernel-maintained `msgqid_ds` structure in buffer
 - `IPC_RMID`: Remove the message queue from the system
- If successful, `msgctl` returns `0`
- If unsuccessful, `msgctl` returns `-1` and sets `errno`

ELEMENTARY SYSTEM CALLS

send_m_q.c

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```
#include <stdio.h>
#include <unistd.h>
#include <stdlib.h>
#include <sys/msg.h>

#define MESSAGE_KEY ((key_t) 7890)

int main ()
{
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