

Unit 2. The process.

• A process is an instance of running pgm/
executing pgm.

- Whenever a pgm get executed by a user, it gives rise to its copy & that is a process.
- These processes use memory. At some time, these memory gets exhausted, then the kernel moves the code & data to the different space called swap area → (disk.)
- Whenever these process get their time to execute, then a copy is recalled from swap area & processed.

→ Some important attributes are related to process

↳ PID → allotted by kernel at its creation

↳ user-id → owner of the process during its creation.

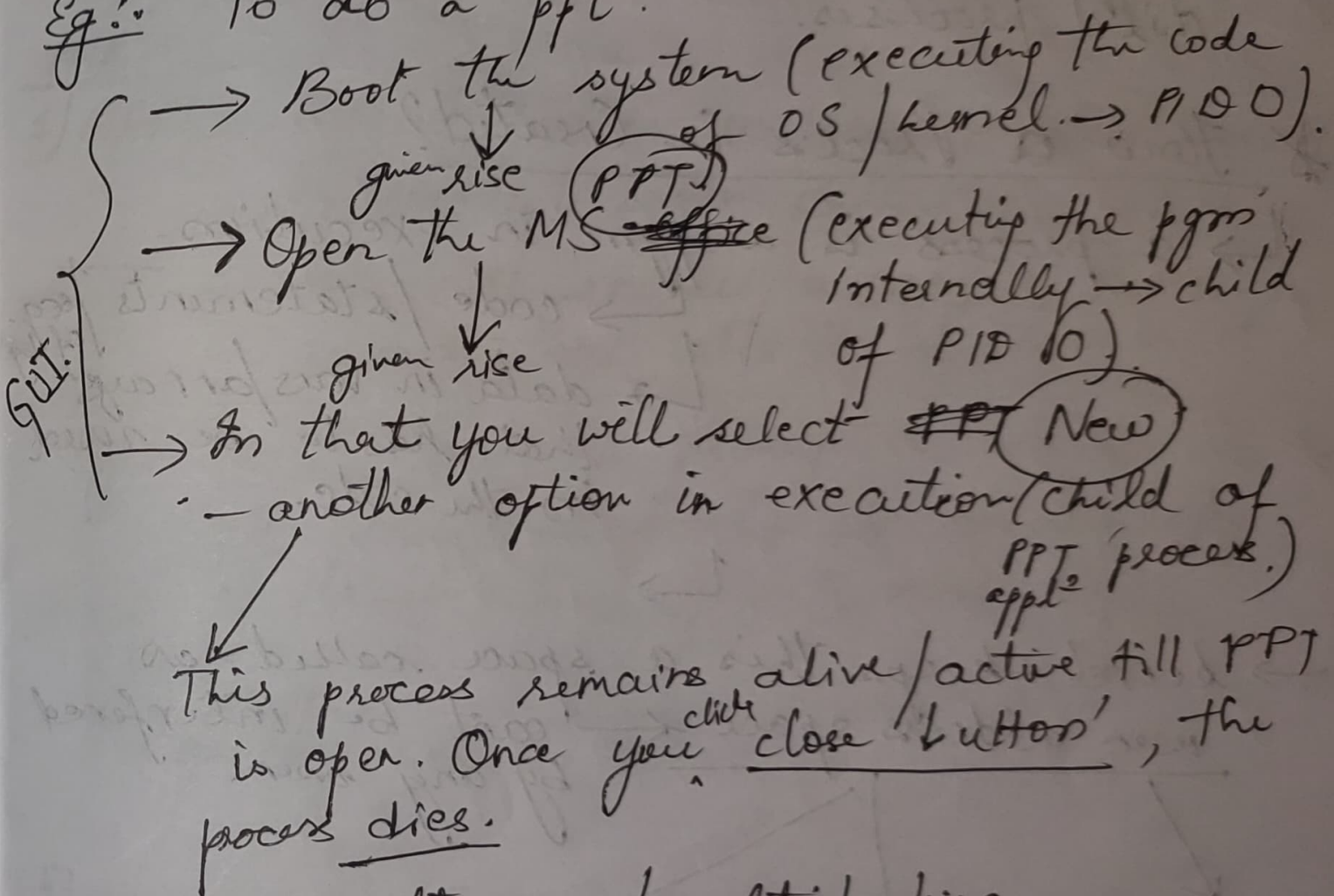
↳ Priority → value allotted to the process given by the kernel to decide when will it all run.

↳ Current directory from where the process is running.

Birth & Death → Parent & Child process.

↳ To create any process → one needs to boot the system that sets up the very first process with PID 0.

Eg: To do a ppt.



UNIX → multiuser / multitasking

↳ process is born when pgm is in execution
↳ remains alive till pgm is active, after execution process dies.

Eg: cat file1;

↳ cmd used in UNIX OS.

↳ ~~given rise by sh cmd of the system~~
~~bcz it was started / booted.~~

sh is parent & cat is child.

→ We cannot have process without parent processes. (Orphaned processes)

→ One process can have only one parent.
One process can create multiple child processes.

* How a Process is Created?

↳ a process is a pgm in execution.

↳ code / statements / seg of code

↳ data in vars / arrays that has to be used in the code.

↳

→ kernel keeps this a space called as user address space ← cant be interfered by any user.

TEXT SEGMENT

↓
executable
code / segment

DATA SEGMENT

↓
vars / arrays
with data

USER SEGMENT

↓
UIDs, GIDs &
current dir.
informatⁿ.

→ Any process that gets created has 3 phases using 3 system calls.

- fork()
- exec()
- wait()

PHASES

1] FORK :: Any process in UNIX is first created by fork(.) system call.

→ This call creates a copy of the process that calls it → invokes it.

Eg:: 'cat' cmd on prompt
'sh' has called it. 'sh' creates copy of itself, & cat gets new PID.
↓
calling process. called
forked process.

2] EXEC :: In this phase, the parent process overwrites the image/copy with the pgm that has to be executed in real.

Eg:: 'sh' was calling process (parent process)
('cat' was called (child process).
→ copy was made.

Now, in exec() → 'sh' image is replaced by the pgm or cmd 'cat' entirely & executed.

WAIT !. In this the parent executes end to wait for the child process to complete its exeⁿ. Once it completes, it sends terminate signal to the parent.

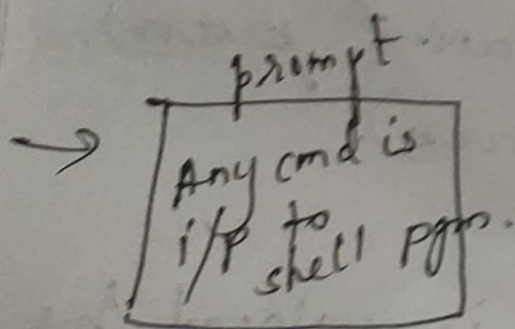
* Child process inherits all parameters of user address space & ~~it~~ is able to make changes. But once the child dies, those modified parameters are unavailable to the parent.

* The Login shell: The first ^{user} process.

↳ This is the very first ^{user} process created in UNIX. When you boot the system & log in, a parent process

kernel sets up a shell pgm → user login

- ↳ sh (Bourne shell)
- ↳ ksh (Korn shell)
- ↳ csh (C shell)
- ↳ bash (Bourne again sh)



} shell pgm is born when you login → it will die when you log out.

- login shell also gets PID. It is stored in special var. $\$ \$$.

$\$ echo \$ \$$ → This won't change till you log out.

→ 659

login shell PID:

Every time, new PIDs are assigned.

↓ under this many processes are started whose parent is login shell

* You can have many processes under login shell

The init Process → parent of all processes.

- init is a system process. — parent of login shell
- And this is 2nd process of the system with PID 1.

- The role of init is

