

Classes | [Core](#) > [Kernel](#)

Process

: [Object](#)*Runtime environment for the virtual machine and interpreter.*Source: [Kernel.sc](#)
Subclasses: [Main](#)

Description

A `Process` is the runtime environment for the virtual machine and interpreter. It has a subclass named `Main` which is where you should override the methods of `Process`. There are two methods of interest. One is named `startup` and is called after the class library has been compiled. The other is named `run` and is called when the user chooses the Run menu command.

Class Methods

`Process.tailCallOptimize``Process.tailCallOptimize = bool`

Get or set tail call optimization. The default is on. Setting this to `false` can help with debugging by including intermediate levels in an error backtrace.

Inherited class methods

14 methods from [Object](#) ► [show](#)

Undocumented class methods

`Process.elapsedTime``Process.monotonicClockTime`

Instance Methods

`.nowExecutingPath``.nowExecutingPath = value`

Usage: `thisProcess.nowExecutingPath`

Returns the full path to the file containing the code that is currently executing *interactively* in the interpreter. Usually this is the current document. If the code block executes another file on disk, using [String: -load](#) or [String: -loadPaths](#), `nowExecutingPath` will be the location of the executed file.

`nowExecutingPath` is valid only for interactive code, i.e., code files with a `.scd` extension. It does not apply to class definitions (`.sc`). For that, use `thisMethod.filenameSymbol` or `this.class.filenameSymbol`.

The method is supported in various environments, including the SuperCollider IDE, Neovim (SCNvim), Emacs (scel), VSCode/VSCodium, and the command line interface (CLI). In unsupported editors, it will return `nil`.

See [Examples](#) for various uses of `thisProcess.nowExecutingPath` with [CmdPeriod](#), [ServerBoot](#) and [ServerTree](#), [Routine](#) and [Task](#).

WARNING: `nowExecutingPath` has a corresponding setter method, `nowExecutingPath_`, for internal use only by the interpreter. Do not call the setter method!

`.startup`

called after the class library has been compiled. Override this in class [Main](#) to do whatever you want.

`.run`

called when the user chooses the Run menu command. Override this in class [Main](#) to do whatever you want.

`.mainThread`

The top-level [Thread](#), i.e the [parent](#) of all other [Threads](#). This instance of [Thread](#) always exists and is created with the [Process](#) when SuperCollider starts.

Discussion:

All SuperCollider code initially runs in the context of the main [Thread](#):

- Code evaluated in code editor
- Code evaluated on command line
- Tasks scheduled on any [Clock](#)
- Functions evaluated in response to incoming OSC and MIDI messages

This means that `thisThread` will always initially point to the main [Thread](#). However, when some code starts a [Routine](#), the [Routine](#) becomes the current [Thread](#), with the main [Thread](#) as its parent.

Inherited instance methods

403 methods from [Object](#) ► [show](#)

Undocumented instance methods

edge/SuperCollider.app/Contents/Resources/SCClassLibrary/Common/GUI/PlusGUI/Core/KernelPlusGUI.sc

.archiveAsCompileString

.argv

.getCurrentSelection

.interpretCmdLine

.interpretPrintCmdLine

.interpretPrintSelectedText

.interpreter

.methodReferences

.methodTemplates

.openCodeFile

.openWinCodeFile

.prSchedulerQueue

.shallowCopy

.showHelp

.shutdown

.stop

.tick

Examples

Example 1. Comparison of the path of the evaluated code block in a saved SCD, the loaded SCD and the function in the loaded SCD:

If a code ("fileMain.scd" in the example code below) executes another file on disk ("fileForLoad.scd" in the example code below) using `String: -load` or `String: -loadPaths`, `thisProcess.nowExecutingPath` will be the location of the executed file ("fileForLoad.scd" in the example code below). If a function containing `thisProcess.nowExecutingPath` is called (the function defined in "fileForLoad.scd" in the example code below), `thisProcess.nowExecutingPath` will return the path of the document containing the function call ("fileMain.scd" in the example code below).

Steps:

1. Preparation:

1. Create an SCD file called fileMain.scd in your home folder using the following block of code:

```
(
  ("thisProcess.nowExecutingPath:").postln;
  ("  in fileMain.scd:                " + thisProcess.nowExecutingPath).postln;
  ~test = (thisProcess.nowExecutingPath.dirname +/+ "fileForLoad.scd");
  ~test.load.testFunction;
  'fileMain.scd tasks finished'.postln;
)
```

2. Create an SCD file called fileForLoad.scd in your home folder using the following block of code:

```
("  in fileForLoad.scd:                " + thisProcess.nowExecutingPath).postln;
(
  testFunction: {
    ("  in the testFunction in fileForLoad.scd:" + thisProcess.nowExecutingPath).postln
  }
)
```

2. Execute SCD file:

- o In SC-IDE or other editors:

1. Create a new SCD file (you do not need to save it for this step), then evaluate the following code:

```
"~/fileMain.scd".standardizePath.openOS;
// Note:
// - .openDocument only works in SC-IDE.
// - .openOS will work in other editors and
//   the system default application will open the SCD file.
```

2. Post window returns:

```
-> /Users/_Your_Account_Folder_/fileMain.scd
thisProcess.nowExecutingPath:
  in fileMain.scd:                /Users/_Your_Account_Folder_/fileMain.scd
  in fileForLoad.scd:            /Users/_Your_Account_Folder_/fileForLoad.scd
  in the testFunction in fileForLoad.scd: /Users/_Your_Account_Folder_/fileMain.scd
fileMain.scd tasks finished
-> fileMain.scd tasks finished
```

- o In command line interface (CLI):

```
// Linux:
sclang '/home/_Your_Account_Folder_/fileMain.scd'

// macOS (/Applications/SuperCollider.app might be changed to properly):
/Applications/SuperCollider.app/Contents/MacOS/sclang ~/fileMain.scd
```

sclang returns to the terminal window (command prompt window on Windows):

```
... (messages are truncated) ...
*** Welcome to SuperCollider 3.13.0. *** For help press F1.
thisProcess.nowExecutingPath:
  in fileMain.scd: C:\Users\Your_Account_Folder\fileMain.scd
  in fileForLoad.scd: C:\Users\Your_Account_Folder\fileForLoad.scd
  in the testFunction in fileForLoad.scd: C:\Users\Your_Account_Folder\fileMain.scd
fileMain.scd tasks finished
```

Example 2. CmdPeriod, ServerBoot and ServerTree:

WARNING: The returned path depends on the existence of the startup.scd file when the interpreter boots.

When used in `CmdPeriod`, `ServerBoot` and `ServerTree`, it will return nil unless startup.scd exists.

```
(
  CmdPeriod.add {
    var path = thisProcess.nowExecutingPath;
    ("-- CmdPeriod's thisProcess.nowExecutingPath:" + path).postln
  };
  ServerBoot.add {
    var path = thisProcess.nowExecutingPath;
    ("-- ServerBoot's thisProcess.nowExecutingPath:" + path).postln
  };
  ServerTree.add {
    var path = thisProcess.nowExecutingPath;
    ("-- ServerTree's thisProcess.nowExecutingPath:" + path).postln
  };
  s.reboot
)
```

- If startup.scd exists:
 - When evaluating the code above, post window returns


```
... (messages are truncated) ...
localhost: keeping clientID (0) as confirmed by server process.
-- ServerBoot's thisProcess.nowExecutingPath: /Users/Your_Account_Folder/Library/Application Support/SuperCollider/startup.scd
-- ServerTree's thisProcess.nowExecutingPath: /Users/Your_Account_Folder/Library/Application Support/SuperCollider/startup.scd
Shared memory server interface initialized
```
 - When pressing CMD/control + . after evaluating the code above:


```
-- CmdPeriod's thisProcess.nowExecutingPath: /Users/Your_Account_Folder/Library/Application Support/SuperCollider/startup.scd
-- ServerTree's thisProcess.nowExecutingPath: /Users/Your_Account_Folder/Library/Application Support/SuperCollider/startup.scd
```
- If there is no startup.scd:
 - When evaluating the code above, post window returns


```
... (messages are truncated) ...
localhost: keeping clientID (0) as confirmed by server process.
-- ServerBoot's thisProcess.nowExecutingPath: nil
-- ServerTree's thisProcess.nowExecutingPath: nil
Shared memory server interface initialized
```
 - When pressing CMD/control + . after evaluating the code above:


```
-- CmdPeriod's thisProcess.nowExecutingPath: nil
-- ServerTree's thisProcess.nowExecutingPath: nil
```

Example 3. In Routine and Task:

The following examples return the full path of the SCD file where the evaluated code block is located.

WARNING: Each code should be copied and pasted into an SCD file that has already been saved in a folder.

- Routine: play:

```
(
  Routine {
    var path = thisProcess.nowExecutingPath;
    ("-- thisProcess.nowExecutingPath in path Routine:" + path).postln
  }.play;
  r {
    var path = thisProcess.nowExecutingPath;
    ("-- thisProcess.nowExecutingPath in path r: " + path).postln
  }.play
)
```

- Function: fork:

```
(
  fork {
    var path = thisProcess.nowExecutingPath;
    ("-- fork's thisProcess.nowExecutingPath:" + path).postln
  }
)
```

- Server: waitForBoot:

```
(
```

```
        ("~ .waitForBoot's thisProcess.nowExecutingPath:" + path).postln
    }
)

• Server: doWhenBooted:

(
s.doWhenBooted {
    var path = thisProcess.nowExecutingPath;
    ("~ .doWhenBooted's thisProcess.nowExecutingPath:" + path).postln
};
s.reboot;
)

• Task:

(
Task {
    var path = thisProcess.nowExecutingPath;
    ("~ Task's thisProcess.nowExecutingPath:" + path).postln
}.start;

Task {
    var path = thisProcess.nowExecutingPath;
    ("~ Task's thisProcess.nowExecutingPath:" + path).postln
}.play
)
```

helpfile source: /Users/prko/Dropbox/prko/___myDocs/Writings/Making Sound using Open Sources/mixed/dev - Bleeding edge/SuperCollider.app/Contents/Resources/HelpSource/Classes/Process.schelp
link::Classes/Process::