

EXERCISES -

1. We will begin with Linux shell commands used to examine the processes running in a system.
 - (a) List all processes running in the system. Explore the different styles of displaying the output, e.g., BSD syntax vs. standard (ps) syntax.

ANS →

BSD Syntax → ps ax

```
prince@Prince: ~/decs/week 1/intro
File Edit View Search Terminal Help
prince@Prince:~/decs/week 1/intro$ ps ax
  PID TTY          STAT       TIME COMMAND
    1 ?           Ss          0:02 /sbin/init splash
    2 ?           S            0:00 [kthreadd]
    3 ?           S            0:00 [pool_workqueue_release]
    4 ?           I<           0:00 [kworker/R-rcu_gp]
    5 ?           I<           0:00 [kworker/R-sync_wq]
    6 ?           I<           0:00 [kworker/R-kvfree_rcu_reclaim]
    7 ?           I<           0:00 [kworker/R-slub_flushwq]
    8 ?           I<           0:00 [kworker/R-netns]
   10 ?           I<           0:00 [kworker/0:0H-events_highpri]
   11 ?           I            0:01 [kworker/0:1-events]
   12 ?           I            0:03 [kworker/u32:0-flush-259:0]
   13 ?           I<           0:00 [kworker/R-mm_percpu_wq]
   14 ?           I            0:00 [rcu_tasks_kthread]
   15 ?           I            0:00 [rcu_tasks_rude_kthread]
   16 ?           I            0:00 [rcu_tasks_trace_kthread]
   17 ?           S            0:00 [ksoftirqd/0]
   18 ?           I            0:02 [rcu_preempt]
   19 ?           S            0:00 [rcu_exp_par_gp_kthread_worker/0]
   20 ?           S            0:00 [rcu_exp_gp_kthread_worker]
   21 ?           S            0:00 [migration/0]
   22 ?           S            0:00 [idle_inject/0]
   23 ?           S            0:00 [cpuhp/0]
   24 ?           S            0:00 [cpuhp/1]
   25 ?           S            0:00 [idle_inject/1]
   26 ?           S            0:00 [migration/1]
   27 ?           S            0:00 [ksoftirqd/1]
   29 ?           I<           0:00 [kworker/1:0H-events_highpri]
   30 ?           S            0:00 [cpuhp/2]
   31 ?           S            0:00 [idle_inject/2]
   32 ?           S            0:00 [migration/2]
   33 ?           S            0:00 [ksoftirqd/2]
   35 ?           I<           0:00 [kworker/2:0H-events_highpri]
```

Standard Syntax → ps -e

```
prince@Prince: ~/decs/week 1/intro
File Edit View Search Terminal Help
prince@Prince:~/decs/week 1/intro$ ps -e
  PID TTY          TIME CMD
    1 ?            00:00:02 systemd
    2 ?            00:00:00 kthreadd
    3 ?            00:00:00 pool_workqueue_release
    4 ?            00:00:00 kworker/R-rcu_gp
    5 ?            00:00:00 kworker/R-sync_wq
    6 ?            00:00:00 kworker/R-kvfree_rcu_reclaim
    7 ?            00:00:00 kworker/R-slub_flushwq
    8 ?            00:00:00 kworker/R-netns
   10 ?            00:00:00 kworker/0:0H-events_highpri
   11 ?            00:00:01 kworker/0:1-mm_percpu_wq
   12 ?            00:00:03 kworker/u32:0-events_unbound
   13 ?            00:00:00 kworker/R-mm_percpu_wq
   14 ?            00:00:00 rcu_tasks_kthread
   15 ?            00:00:00 rcu_tasks_rude_kthread
   16 ?            00:00:00 rcu_tasks_trace_kthread
   17 ?            00:00:00 ksoftirqd/0
   18 ?            00:00:02 rcu_preempt
   19 ?            00:00:00 rcu_exp_par_gp_kthread_worker/0
   20 ?            00:00:00 rcu_exp_gp_kthread_worker
   21 ?            00:00:00 migration/0
   22 ?            00:00:00 idle_inject/0
   23 ?            00:00:00 cpuhp/0
   24 ?            00:00:00 cpuhp/1
   25 ?            00:00:00 idle_inject/1
   26 ?            00:00:00 migration/1
   27 ?            00:00:00 ksoftirqd/1
   29 ?            00:00:00 kworker/1:0H-events_highpri
   30 ?            00:00:00 cpuhp/2
   31 ?            00:00:00 idle_inject/2
   32 ?            00:00:00 migration/2
   33 ?            00:00:00 ksoftirqd/2
   35 ?            00:00:00 kworker/2:0H-events_highpri
   36 ?            00:00:00 cpuhp/2
```

(b) Print a process tree for all processes running in the system.

ANS →

Command → pstree

```
prince@Prince: ~/decs/week 1/intro
File Edit View Search Terminal Help
prince@Prince:~/decs/week 1/intro$ pstree
systemd├─ModemManager─3*[{ModemManager}]
      ├─NetworkManager─3*[{NetworkManager}]
      ├─accounts-daemon─3*[{accounts-daemon}]
      ├─avahi-daemon─avahi-daemon
      ├─bluetoothd
      ├─colord─3*[{colord}]
      ├─cron
      ├─cups-browsed─3*[{cups-browsed}]
      ├─cupsd
      ├─dbus-daemon
      ├─fwupd─3*[{fwupd}]
      ├─gdm3├─gdm-session-wor├─gdm-wayland-ses├─gnome-session-b─+
          │                 │                 │   3*[{gdm-wayland-se+
          └─3*[{gdm3}]         └─3*[{gdm-session-wor}]
      ├─gnome-remote-de─3*[{gnome-remote-de}]
      ├─polkitd─3*[{polkitd}]
      ├─power-profiles-─3*[{power-profiles-}]
      ├─rsyslogd─3*[{rsyslogd}]
      ├─rtkit-daemon─2*[{rtkit-daemon}]
      ├─snapd─14*[{snapd}]
      ├─switcheroo-cont─3*[{switcheroo-cont}]
      └─systemd├─(sd-pam)
                ├─at-spi2-registr─3*[{at-spi2-registr}]
                ├─2*[chrome_crashpad─2*[{chrome_crashpad}]]
                ├─chrome_crashpad─{chrome_crashpad}
                ├─code├─code─code─18*[{code}]
                    │   │   │   └─code─code─code─14*[{code}]
                    │   │   └─code─8*[{code}]
                    │   └─2*[code─15*[{code}]]
                    └─code─17*[{code}]
                └─37*[{code}]
                ├─dbus-daemon
                └─dcoef-service─2*[{dcoef-service}]
```


(c) List the pid, ppid, state, command, for all process running in the system.

ANS →

Command → ps -eo pid,ppid,state,cmd

```
prince@Prince:~/decs/week 1/intro$ ps -eo pid,ppid,state,cmd
PID      PPID S  CMD
   1         0 S  /sbin/init splash
   2         0 S  [kthreadd]
   3         2 S  [pool_workqueue_release]
   4         2 I  [kworker/R-rcu_gp]
   5         2 I  [kworker/R-sync_wq]
   6         2 I  [kworker/R-kvfree_rcu_reclaim]
   7         2 I  [kworker/R-slub_flushwq]
   8         2 I  [kworker/R-netns]
  10         2 I  [kworker/0:0H-events_highpri]
  11         2 I  [kworker/0:1-events]
  12         2 I  [kworker/u32:0-events_power_efficient]
  13         2 I  [kworker/R-mm_percpu_wq]
  14         2 I  [rcu_tasks_kthread]
  15         2 I  [rcu_tasks_rude_kthread]
  16         2 I  [rcu_tasks_trace_kthread]
  17         2 S  [ksoftirqd/0]
  18         2 I  [rcu_preempt]
  19         2 S  [rcu_exp_par_gp_kthread_worker/0]
  20         2 S  [rcu_exp_gp_kthread_worker]
  21         2 S  [migration/0]
  22         2 S  [idle_inject/0]
  23         2 S  [cpuhp/0]
  24         2 S  [cpuhp/1]
  25         2 S  [idle_inject/1]
  26         2 S  [migration/1]
  27         2 S  [ksoftirqd/1]
  29         2 I  [kworker/1:0H-events_highpri]
  30         2 S  [cpuhp/2]
  31         2 S  [idle_inject/2]
  32         2 S  [migration/2]
  33         2 S  [ksoftirqd/2]
  35         2 I  [kworker/2:0H-events_highpri]
```

(d) List the pid, ppid, and name of the command of process with pid 123 (or any PID).

ANS →

Command → `ps -o pid,ppid,comm -p PID`

```
prince@Prince:~/decs/week 1/intro$ ps -o pid,ppid,comm -p 5859
  PID   PPID  COMMAND
  5859   5852   bash
prince@Prince:~/decs/week 1/intro$
```

(e) Print the process tree of a process with pid 123 using ascii characters.

ANS →

Command → `pstree -p PID`

```
prince@Prince:~/decs/week 1/intro$ pstree -p 2777
gvfs-udisks2-vo(2777)─{gvfs-udisks2-vo}(2893)
                   └─{gvfs-udisks2-vo}(2894)
                   └─{gvfs-udisks2-vo}(2896)
                   └─{gvfs-udisks2-vo}(2936)
prince@Prince:~/decs/week 1/intro$
```

2. Answer the following questions by looking at the files in the proc filesystem, and the outputs of the lscpu, uname, uptime commands on your system.

- (a) How many CPUs / cores / processors does your machine have? What is the frequency of each processor? What is the architecture of your CPU?

ANS →

Command → lscpu

Cores = 8

Frequency →

CPU max MHz: 4200.0000

CPU min MHz: 400.0000

Architecture = x86_64

prince@Prince:~/decs/week 1/intro\$ lscpu

```
Architecture:          x86_64
  CPU op-mode(s):      32-bit, 64-bit
  Address sizes:        39 bits physical, 48 bits virtual
  Byte Order:           Little Endian
CPU(s):                 8
  On-line CPU(s) list: 0-7
Vendor ID:              GenuineIntel
  Model name:           Intel(R) Core(TM) i5-10210U CPU @ 1.60GHz
  CPU family:           6
  Model:                142
  Thread(s) per core:   2
  Core(s) per socket:   4
  Socket(s):            1
  Stepping:             12
  CPU(s) scaling MHz:   18%
  CPU max MHz:          4200.0000
  CPU min MHz:          400.0000
  BogomIPS:             4199.88
  Flags:                fpu vme de pse tsc msr pae mce cx8 apic sep mt
                        rr pge mca cmov pat pse36 clflush dts acpi mmx
                        fxsr sse sse2 ss ht tm pbe syscall nx pdpe1gb
                        rdtscp lm constant_tsc art arch_perfmon pebs
                        bts rep_good nopl xtopology nonstop_tsc cpuid
                        aperfmperf pni pclmulqdq dtes64 monitor ds_cpl
                        vmx est tm2 ssse3 sdbg fma cx16 xtpr pdcm pci
                        d sse4_1 sse4_2 x2apic movbe popcnt tsc_deadli
                        ne_timer aes xsave avx f16c rdrand lahf_lm abm
                        3dnowprefetch cpuid_fault epb ssbd ibrs ibpb
                        stibp ibrs_enhanced tpr_shadow flexpriority ep
                        t vpid ept_ad fsgsbase tsc_adjust bmi1 avx2 sm
                        ep bmi2 erms invpcid mpx rdseed adx smap clflu
                        shopt intel_pt xsaveopt xsavec xgetbv1 xsaves
                        dtherm ida arat pln pts hwp hwp_notify hwp_act
                        _window hwp_epp vnmi md_clear flush_l1d arch_c
                        apabilities
```

(b) How much physical memory does your system have? How much of this memory is free?

ANS →

Command → free

Total memory = 7405204

Free memory = 403040

```
prince@Prince:~/decs/week 1/intro$ free
              total        used        free      shared  buff/cache   available
Mem:          7405204      4888740       403040       1218764       3689888       2516464
Swap:          4194300           192       4194108
```

(c) For how long has your system been running? What is total number of context switches since the system booted up?

ANS →

Command → uptime

```
prince@Prince:~/decs/week 1/intro$ uptime
18:16:02 up 2:57, 2 users, load average: 0.32, 0.28, 0.22
```

Command → uptime -p

Up time = 2 hours, 58 minutes

```
prince@Prince:~/decs/week 1/intro$ uptime
18:16:02 up 2:57, 2 users, load average: 0.32, 0.28, 0.22
```

Command → cat /proc/stat | grep ctxt

Context switches = 15227117

```
prince@Prince:~/decs/week 1/intro$ cat /proc/stat | grep ctxt
ctxt 15227117
```

(d) What is name of your operating system? What is the kernel version?

ANS →

Command → uname -o

Operating System = GNU/Linux

```
prince@Prince:~/decs/week 1/intro$ uname -o
GNU/Linux
```

Command → uname -v

Kernel version = #27-Ubuntu SMP PREEMPT_DYNAMIC Tue Jul 22 17:01:58 UTC 2025


```
prince@Prince:~/decs/week 1/intro$ uname -v
#27-Ubuntu SMP PREEMPT_DYNAMIC Tue Jul 22 17:01:58 UTC 2025
```

3. In this question, we will understand how to monitor the status of a running process using the top command. Compile the program cpu.c given to you and execute it in the shell. \$ gcc cpu.c -o cpu \$./cpu This program runs in an infinite loop without terminating. Now open another terminal, run the top command and answer the following questions about the cpu process.

(a) What is the PID of the process running the cpu command?

ANS →

Command → top

PID = 11738

PID	USER	PR	NI	VIRT	RES	SHR	S	%CPU	%MEM	TIME+	COMMAND
11738	prince	20	0	2616	1320	1320	R	99.6	0.0	0:13.52	cpu

(b) How much CPU and memory does this process consume?

ANS →

CPU = 99.9%

Memory = 0%

(c) What is the current state of the process? For example, is it running or in a blocked state or a zombie state?

ANS →

State = Running

4. In this question, we will understand how the Linux shell (e.g., the bash shell) runs user commands by spawning new child processes to execute the various commands.

- (a) Compile the program `cpu-print.c` given to you and execute it in the bash or any other shell of your choice as follows. `$ gcc cpu-print.c -o cpu-print $./cpu-print`
This program runs in an infinite loop printing output to the screen. Now, open another terminal and use the `ps` command with suitable options to find out the pid of the process spawned by the shell to run the `cpu-print` executable.

ANS →

Command → `ps -e | grep cpu-print`

PID = 11875

```
prince@Prince:~/decs/week 1/intro$ ps -e | grep cpu-print
11875 pts/0    00:00:02  cpu-print
```

- (b) Find the PID of the parent of the `cpu-print` process, i.e., the shell process. Next, find the PIDs of all the ancestors, going back at least 5 generations (or until you reach the init process).

ANS →

Command → `ps -o pid,ppid,cmd -p PID`

```
prince@Prince:~/decs/week 1/intro$ ps -o pid,ppid,cmd -p 11875
PID    PPID  CMD
11875   9751  ./cpu-print
```

```
prince@Prince:~/decs/week 1/intro$ ps -o pid,ppid,cmd -p 9751
PID    PPID  CMD
9751   9740  bash
```

```
prince@Prince:~/decs/week 1/intro$ ps -o pid,ppid,cmd -p 9740
PID    PPID  CMD
9740   2334  /usr/libexec/gnome-terminal-server
```

```
prince@Prince:~/decs/week 1/intro$ ps -o pid,ppid,cmd -p 2334
PID      PPID  CMD
2334      1    /usr/lib/systemd/systemd --user
```

```
prince@Prince:~/decs/week 1/intro$ ps -o pid,ppid,cmd -p 1
PID      PPID  CMD
1         0    /sbin/init splash
```

- (c) Using the pstree command, print the process tree of the shell process that is running your cpu-print program.

ANS →

Command → pstree -p PID

```
prince@Prince:~/decs/week 1/intro$ pstree -p 9751
bash(9751)─┬─cpu-print(11875)
            └─top(11241)
```

- (d) Now, stop the execution of the cpu-print executable. Run a long background command, e.g., sleep 10000 & on your shell. Restart the long cpu-print process in the foreground again. Visualize the process tree of your shell again.

ANS →

Commands → pstree -p PID

```
prince@Prince:~/decs/week 1/intro$ pstree -p 9751
bash(9751)─┬─cpu-print(12018)
            ├──sleep(12017)
            └─top(11241)
```

5. When you type in a command into the shell, the shell does one of two things. For some commands, executables that perform that functionality already come with your Linux kernel installation. For such commands, the shell simply invokes the executable to run the command. For other commands where the executable does not exist, the shell implements the command itself within its code. Consider the following commands that you can type in the bash shell: `cd`, `ls`, `ps`, `sleep`, `history`. Which of these commands already exist as executables in the Linux kernel directory tree, and which are implemented by the bash code itself? If the executable already exists, what is the pathname of the executable file? You may use the `which` command to help you.

ANS →

Commands in kernel = `cd` , `history`

Commands implemented in bash code →

- `ls` = `/usr/bin/ls`
- `ps` = `/usr/bin/ps`
- `sleep` = `/usr/bin/sleep`