Linux Process Management

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Program in Linux

- Refers to a set of instructions or code designed to perform a specific task or set of tasks on a computer.
- Key aspects
 - Open Source
 - Command-Line Interface(CLI) Programs
 - Graphical User Interface(GUI) Programs
 - Package Management
 - Compatibility
 - Variety of Applications
 - Community Support
- Kinds
 - System Programs
 - Application Programs



Program in Linux (Cont.)

- Refers to any piece of software that can be executed.
- Includes
 - Executable Binaries
 - Scripts
 - Applications
 - System Daemons and Services
- Can install programs from package managers like apt (for Debian-bas ed systems) or yum (for Red Hat-based systems), compile them from source, or run them as scripts.



PATH

- Way to search programs
 - \$ echo \$PATH
- When the command is executed, the system does the following:
 - Find specified path
 - Search the \$PATH variable for program

```
ubuntu@ubuntu-desktop:~$ echo $PATH
/usr/local/sbin:/usr/local/bin:/usr/sbin:/bin:/bin:/usr/games:/usr/local/games:/snap/bin
ubuntu@ubuntu-desktop:~$
```



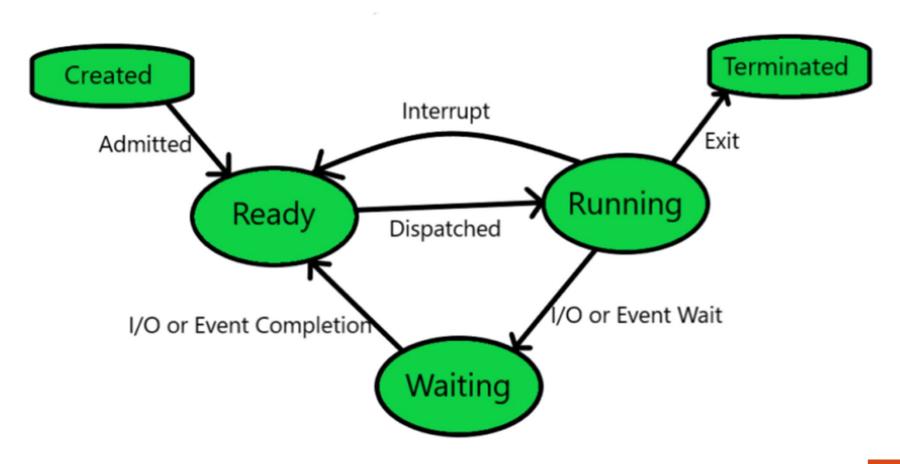
Process

- Is a fundamental concept representing a running instance of a program.
- When start a program on a Linux system, it becomes a process.
- Each process in Linux has a unique identifier called a Process ID
 (PID) and contains the program's executable code, its current activity
 (or state), and the resources assigned to it.
- Key aspects
 - Process ID (PID)
 - Parent and Child Processes
 - Process State
 - Resources

- Execution Context
- Environment
- Priority and Scheduling
- System Calls and User Space

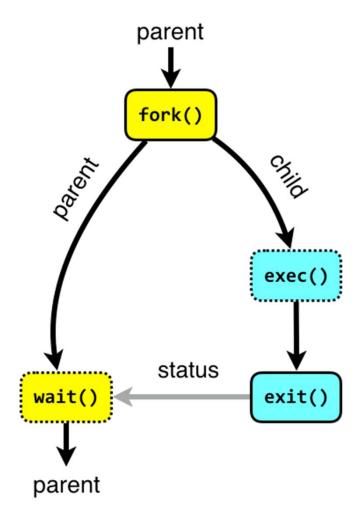


Process state





Process management





ps Command

- Is a standard utility used to display information about the currently running processes on a system.
- Stands for process status.
- Is widely used for monitoring the system's processes
- Is an essential tool for system administration and troubleshooting.
- Provides various details about
 - PID
 - TTY
 - TIME
 - CMD
 - USER
 - %CPU, %MEM



- Options and Flags
 - –e or –A : List all processes
 - -f: Show processes in a hierarchical format
 - -u [username] : Display processes for a specific user
 - aux : Combining multiple flags
 - Show processes for all users
 - ■u : Display the process's user/owner
 - : Include processes not attached to a terminal
 - -p [PID] : Selecting processes by PID
- Piping with grep
 - To find a specific process, can pipe the output of ps into grep

```
$ ps aux | grep [processName]
```



pidof Command

- Is a simple utility used to find the process ID (PID) of a running program.
- Syntax
 - \$ pidof [programName]
- Example
 - \$ pidof apache2

```
ubuntu@ubuntu-desktop:~$ pidof sshd
14304 14268 14257 14221 13977
ubuntu@ubuntu-desktop:~$
```



pstree Command

Is a useful tool for displaying the process hierarchy, showing how processes are related to each other in a tree structure.

```
systemd——VBoxService——7*[{VBoxService}]
—accounts-daemon—2*[{accounts-daemon}]
—2*[agetty]
—atd
—cron
—dbus-daemon
—irqbalance——{irqbalance}
—2*[iscsid]
—lvmetad
—lxcfs——2*[{lxcfs}]
—networkd-dispat——{networkd-dispat}
—nginx——2*[nginx]
```

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top Command

Is a real-time system monitor that provides a dynamic view of running processes and system resource usage.

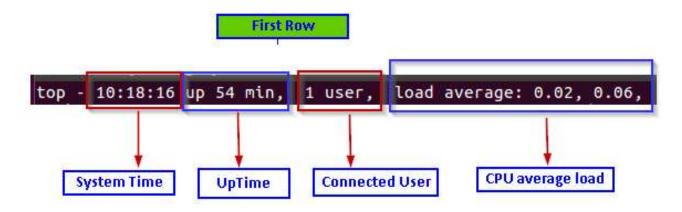
```
top - 14:05:08 up 1 min, 1 user, load average: 2.56, 1.69, 0.67
Tasks: 281 total, 1 running, 280 sleeping,
                                              0 stopped.
                                                           0 zombie
%Cpu(s): 8.8 us, 3.0 sy, 0.0 ni, 88.2 id, 0.0 wa, 0.0 hi, 0.0 si, 0.0 st
           3928.7 total,
MiB Mem :
                          499.8 free.
                                          1481.0 used.
                                                         1948.0 buff/cache
MiB Swap:
           2048.0 total.
                           2048.0 free.
                                             0.0 used.
                                                         2197.6 avail Mem
    PID USER
                                   RES
                                                %CPU %MEM
                                                                TIME+ COMMAND
                  PR
                     NI
                           VIRT
                                          SHR S
   2190 bosko
                                                              0:07.05 gnome-shell
                      0 4507960 369540 129716 S
                                                19.3
                                                        9.2
   1544 bosko
                                                  5.0
                                                        2.2
                      0 1012080 86956 50644 S
                                                              0:01.67 Xorg
                  20
   7510 bosko
                 20
                      0 1142728 72280 48040 S
                                                  4.0
                                                        1.8
                                                              0:01.25 nautilus
   6555 bosko
                  20
                      0 817396 50692
                                        38188 S
                                                  2.0
                                                        1.3
                                                              0:00.46 gnome-termin+
   932 root
                 20
                      0 1094548 41044
                                        18844 S
                                                  0.3
                                                        1.0
                                                              0:02.78 snapd
   1207 mysql
                      0 2077480 385408
                                        35440 S
                                                  0.3
                                                        9.6
                                                              0:00.77 mysqld
   1509 bosko
                                                              0:00.99 pulseaudio
                  9 -11 1674144 19956 15216 S
                                                  0.3
                                                        0.5
   1813 bosko
                  20
                      0 158232
                                 2708
                                         2340 S
                                                  0.3
                                                        0.1
                                                              0:00.10 VBoxClient
                         980444 78352 48848 S
   2756 bosko
                  20
                                                  0.3
                                                        1.9
                                                              0:02.74 snap-store
                  20 0
                        168184
                                12196
                                         8440 S
                                                  0.0
                                                        0.3
                                                              0:01.00 systemd
      1 root
                                                              0:00.00 kthreadd
                  20
                                            0 S
                                                  0.0
                                                        0.0
      2 root
      3 root
                                                              0:00.00 rcu qp
                  0 -20
                                            0 I
                                                  0.0
                                                        0.0
```

- Options
 - -h or help
 - -v or version
 - -b : Runs in batch mode, useful for sending output to a file or another program.

```
ubuntu@ubuntu-desktop:~/CompanyA$ top -hv
  procps-ng 3.3.17
Usage:
  top -hv | -bcEeHiOSs1 -d secs -n max -u|U user -p pid(s) -o field -w [cols]
ubuntu@ubuntu-desktop:~/CompanyA$
```



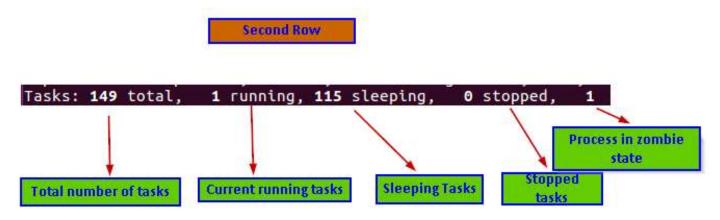
First Row



- Current system time (10:18:16)
- Uptime of the system(up 54 min)
- Count of logged in users (1 user)
- Average CPU load (load average: 0.02, 0.06): 0.02 in last minute and 0.06 in last five minutes.

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Second Row



- Total number of tasks
- A number of currently running tasks
- A total number of tasks in a sleeping state
- Total number of stopped tasks
- A total number of processes in a zombie state



top Task state

- R(Running)
 - The process is either running or ready to run.
- S(Sleeping)
 - The process is sleeping, waiting for an event or resource.
- D(Uninterruptible Sleep)
 - Waiting for I/O completion, cannot be interrupted.
- Z(Zombie)
 - Completed process, awaiting collection by its parent.

```
top - 20:12:28 up 3:13, 1 user, load average: 0.00, 0.00, 0.00

[Tasks: 90 total, 1 running, 49 sleeping, 0 stopped, 0 zombie]

%Cpu(s): 0.2 us, 0.2 sy, 0.0 ni, 99.3 id, 0.0 wa, 0.0 hi, 0.0 si, 0.3 st

KiB Mem : 3977796 total, 3359996 free, 122140 used, 495660 buff/cache

KiB Swap: 0 total, 0 free, 0 used. 3634520 avail Mem
```

wake up / signal

Uninterruptible

Sleep

(D)

Interruptible

Sleep

(S)

wake up

- T(Stopped)
 - Process has been stopped, typically by a job control signal.
- t(Tracing Stop)
 - Process is stopped by a debugger during tracing.



Stopped

Zombie

(Z)

SIGSTOP

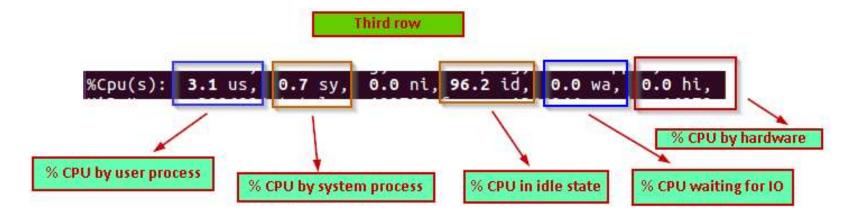
exit()

SIGCONT

Running/ Runnable

(R)

Third Row



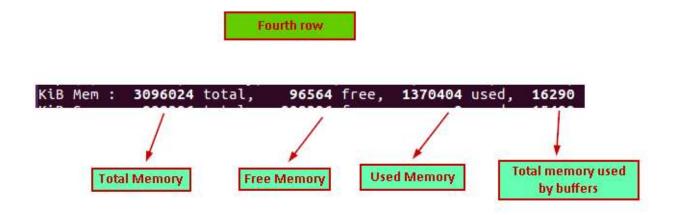
- 3.1 us % CPU used by the user processes
- 0.7 sy % CPU used by the system processes
- 96.2 id % CPU by in idle state
- 0.0 wa % CPU waiting for IO
- 0.0 hi % CPU time by hardware interrupts



top CPU value

| Value | Description |
|---|---|
| us (User Time) | Time CPU spends executing processes in user mode. |
| sy (System Time) | Time spent on system/kernel tasks. |
| ni (Nice Time) | Time spent on user processes with a positive nice value. |
| id (Idle Time) | CPU time when no tasks are running. |
| wa (I/O Wait) | Time waiting for I/O operations to complete. |
| <i>hi</i> (Hardware Interrupts) | Time dealing with hardware interrupts. |
| si (Software Interrupts) | Time handling software interrupts. |
| st (Steal Time) | Time that a virtual CPU waits for a real CPU (in virtualized environments). |
| top - 20:12:28 up 3:13, 1 user, load average: 0.00, 0.00, 0.00 Tasks: 90 total, 1 running, 49 sleeping, 0 stopped, 0 zombie %Cpu(s): 0.2 us, 0.2 sy, 0.0 ni, 99.3 id, 0.0 wa, 0.0 hi, 0.0 si, 0.3 st KiB Mem : 3977796 total, 3359996 free, 122140 used, 495660 buff/cache KiB Swap: 0 total, 0 free, 0 used. 3634520 avail Mem | |

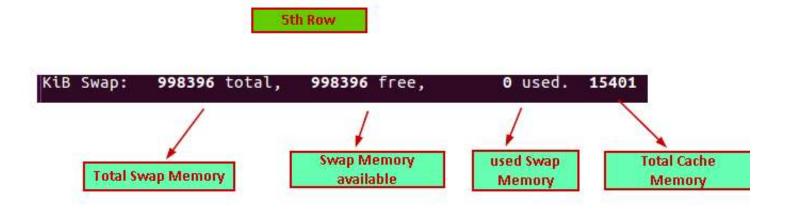
Fourth Row



- 3096024 total: Total system memory in KB
- 96564 free: Available memory in KB
- 370404 used: Used memory in KB
- 16290: Memory used by the buffer cache in KB



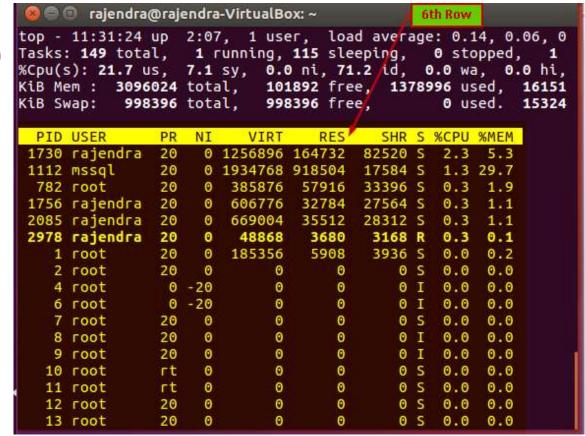
Fifth Row



- 998396 total: Total swap memory in KB
- 988396 free: Available swap memory in KB
- 0 used: Currently used swap memory in KB
- 15401: Total Cache memory



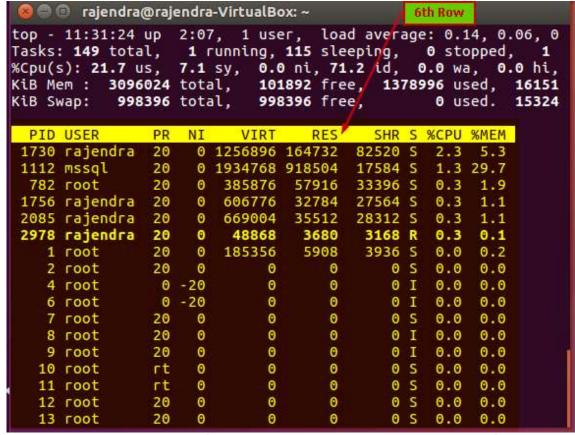
Sixth Row



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- **PID**: this is the process id of the running process
- User: It is the user id for which the process is running
- **PR**: it is the process priority. We can see value 'rt' in this column as well. RT means the process is running real-time

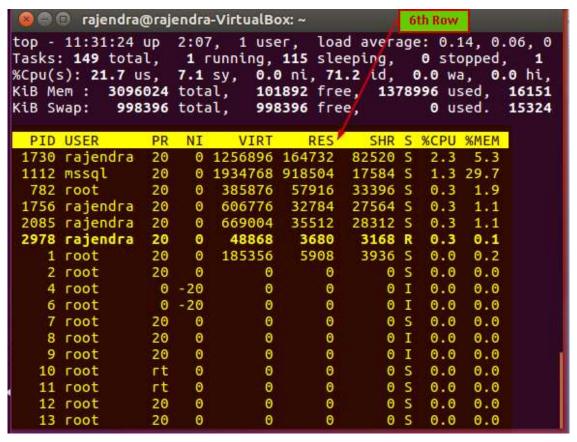
Sixth Row (Cont.)



- **Ni**: It is the nice value of the process running. The negative value on this column shows high priority. Nice value range is -20 to 19 in which -20 is the highest and 19 lowest value
- VIRT: It is the virtual memory in KB used the process
- RES: it is the physical memory in KB used by that particular process



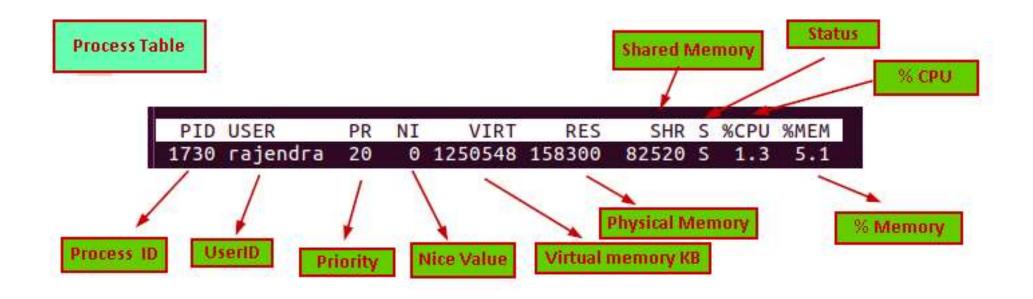
Sixth Row (Cont.)



- **SHR**: it is the shared memory used by the process in KB
- S: it defines process status(S- Sleeping, R- running, I- idle, Z-Zombie)
- **%CPU**:% CPU used by the process
- **%MEM**: % memory used by the process



Sixth Row (Cont.)





kill Command

- Sends signals to processes, primarily used to terminate processes.
- By default, it sends SIGTERM (signal 15), asking a process to stop gracefully.
- If unresponsive, SIGKILL (signal 9) forcefully terminates it.
- Usage
 - \$ kill [signal_option] [PID]
- Options
 - -9 for *SIGKILL*
 - -15 for *SIGTERM*

```
|ayesh@jayesh-VirtualBox:~$ kill -l
                 2) SIGINT
                                                 4) SIGILL
1) SIGHUP
                                 SIGQUIT
                                                                 5) SIGTRAP
 6) SIGABRT
                7) SIGBUS
                                 8) SIGFPE
                                                 9) SIGKILL
                                                                10) SIGUSR1
11) SIGSEGV
                12) SIGUSR2
                                13) SIGPIPE
                                                14) SIGALRM
                                                                15) SIGTERM
                17) SIGCHLD
                                18) SIGCONT
                                                19) SIGSTOP
                                                                20) SIGTSTP
21) SIGTTIN
                22) SIGTTOU
                                23) SIGURG
                                                24) SIGXCPU
                                                                25) SIGXFSZ
26) SIGVTALRM
                27) SIGPROF
                                28) SIGWINCH
                                                29) SIGIO
31) SIGSYS
                34) SIGRTMIN
                                35) SIGRTMIN+1 36) SIGRTMIN+2 37) SIGRTMIN+3
38) SIGRTMIN+4 39) SIGRTMIN+5 40) SIGRTMIN+6
                                                41) SIGRTMIN+7 42) SIGRTMIN+8
43) SIGRTMIN+9  44) SIGRTMIN+10 45) SIGRTMIN+11 46) SIGRTMIN+12 47) SIGRTMIN+13
48) SIGRTMIN+14 49) SIGRTMIN+15 50) SIGRTMAX-14 51) SIGRTMAX-13 52) SIGRTMAX-12
53) SIGRTMAX-11 54) SIGRTMAX-10 55) SIGRTMAX-9 56) SIGRTMAX-8
                                                                57) SIGRTMAX-7
58) SIGRTMAX-6 59) SIGRTMAX-5 60) SIGRTMAX-4 61) SIGRTMAX-3
63) SIGRTMAX-1 64) SIGRTMAX
jayesh@jayesh-VirtualBox:~$
```

nice & renice Command

- Are used to adjust the scheduling priority of processes.
- nice
 - Sets the priority of a new process.
 - A higher nice value means a lower priority, and the range typically goes from -20 (highest priority) to 19 (lowest).
 - Usage

```
■ $ nice -n [nice_value] [command]
```

renice

- Alters the priority of existing processes.
- It requires the process ID (PID) and can change the nice value of a process that's *already running*.
- Usage

```
$ renice [nice_value] -p [PID]
```



jobs Command

- Is used to display the status of jobs in the current shell session.
- what's job
 - Refers to a process that was started by the shell and can be running, stopped, or terminated.
- jobs shows the job ID, state (like running or stopped), and the command that initiated the job.
- Particularly useful for managing background and suspended jobs, helping users keep track of multiple processes they've initiated in their shell session.



jobs Command (Cont.)

- How to use
 - List Jobs
 - Type jobs in the terminal.
 - This will display a list of current jobs with their status (running, stopped, etc.).
 - Job Control
 - Can bring a job to the foreground with fg %[job_id] or send it to the background with bg %[job id].
 - Job IDs
 - Jobs are referenced by their job ID, which is displayed next to each job by the jobs command.



at Command

- Schedules commands or scripts to be executed at a later time.
- Specify the time for execution in a variety of formats, and at then runs the provided commands at that time.
- Example
 - \$ at now + 2 hours
- How to use
 - Schedule a Job: Enter at followed by the time for the job. For example, at
 5pm or at now + 1 hour.
 - ② Enter Commands: After pressing Enter, you'll get a prompt. Type the command(s) you want to execute.
 - 3 End Input: Press Ctrl+D to save the job.



cron Command

- Is not directly used but refers to the cron daemon and crontab files that handle scheduled tasks.
- Cron jobs are tasks scheduled to run automatically at specified intervals.
- Use the crontab command to create, edit, list, or remove cron jobs.
- How to use
 - \$ crontab -e for edit the current user's crontab
 - \$ crontab -1 for listing current cron jobs
- Crontab format
 - minute hour day month weekday command



cron Command (Cont.)

- Crontab format
 - minute hour day month weekday command
- Minute → 0-59
- Hour → 0-23
- Day of Month → 1-31
- Month → 1-12
- Day of Week → 0-7 (both 0 and 7 are Sunday)
- Command



