
Error Handling Low-Level I/O Signals

Error Handling

- ▶ Potential errors/mistakes have to be anticipated and corresponding corrective action (if possible) should be adopted.
- ▶ Instead of using an *fprintf()*, the call *perror()* could be used:
 - ▶ *void perror(char *estring)*
 - ▶ Prints out the string pointed to by *estring* denoting a specific kind of a mistake (choice of the programmer), plus a system-generated error string
- ▶ If we include the header file *#include <errno.h>*, the variable *errno* will have as its value an integer corresponding to the latest error that occurred.

C program with Error Handling

```
#include <stdio.h>
#include <stdlib.h>
#include <errno.h>

int main(){
    FILE *fp=NULL;  char *p=NULL;  int stat=0;

    fp=fopen("a_non_existent_file","r");
    if (fp == NULL) {
        printf("errno = %d \n", errno);
        perror("fopen");
    }

    p=(char *)malloc(2147483647);
    if (p==NULL) {
        printf("errno = %d \n",errno);
        perror("malloc");
    }
    else {
        printf("Carry on\n");
    }

    stat=unlink("/etc/motd");
    if (stat == -1) {
        printf("errno = %d \n",errno);
        perror("unlink");
    }

    return(1);
}
```

Running the *errors_demo.c* executable

```
ad@thales:~/Transparencies/Set004/src$ gcc errors_demo
.c
ad@thales:~/Transparencies/Set004/src$ ./a.out
errno = 2
fopen: No such file or directory
Carry on
errno = 13
unlink: Permission denied
ad@thales:~/Transparencies/Set004/src$
```

Low-Level Input/Output

- ▶ The *stdio* library enables the average user to carry out I/O without worrying about buffering and/or data conversion.
- ▶ The *stdio* is a user-friendly set of system calls.
- ▶ Low-level I/O functionality is required
 1. when the amenities of *stdio* are not desirable (for whatever reason) in accessing files/devices or
 2. when interprocess communication occurs with the help of pipes/sockets.

Low-Level I/Os

- ▶ In low-level I/O, file descriptors that identify files, pipes, sockets and devices are small integers
 - ▶ The above is in contrast to what happens in the *stdio* where respective identifiers are pointers.
- ▶ Designated (fixed) file descriptors:
 - 0 : standard input
 - 1 : standard output
 - 2 : standard error (for error diagnostics).
- ▶ The above file descriptors 0, 1, and 2 correspond to pointers to the *stdin* *stdout* and *stderr* files of the *stdio* library.
- ▶ The file descriptors are parent-“inherited” to any child process that the parent in question creates.

The *open()* system call

- ▶ *int open(char *pathname, int flags [, mode_t mode])*
- ▶ The call opens or creates a file with absolute or relative *pathname* for reading/writing.
- ▶ *flags* designates the way (a number) with which the file can be accessed; values for *flags* may be constructed by a bitwise-inclusive OR of flags from the following set:
 - ▶ *O_RDONLY*: open for reading only.
 - ▶ *O_WRONLY*: open for writing only.
 - ▶ *O_RDWR*: open for both reading and writing.
 - ▶ *O_APPEND*: write at the end of the file.
 - ▶ *O_CREAT*: create a file if it does not already exist.
 - ▶ *O_TRUNC*: the size of the file will be truncated to 0 if the file exists.

The *open()* system call

- ▶ required: `#include <fcntl.h>`
⇒ *fcntl.h* defines all these (and more) flags.
- ▶ The non-mandatory *mode* parameter is an integer that designates the desired access primitives during the creation of a file (access rights not allowed from the *umask* are not allowed).
- ▶ *open* returns an integer that designates the file created and, in case of no success, it returns -1.

createfile.c

```
#include <stdio.h>    // to have access to printf()
#include <stdlib.h>    // to enable exit calls
#include <fcntl.h>    // to have access to flags def
#define PERMS 0644    // set access permissions

char *workfile="mytest";

main(){
    int filedес;

    if ((filedes=open(workfile,O_CREAT|O_RDWR,PERMS))== -1){
        perror("creating");
        exit(1);
    }
    else {
        printf("Managed to get to the file successfully\n");
    }
    exit(0);
}
```

Running the executable for *createfile.c*

```
ad@thales:~/Transparencies/Set004/src$ gcc createfile.c
ad@thales:~/Transparencies/Set004/src$ ./a.out
Managed to get to the file successfully
ad@thales:~/Transparencies/Set004/src$ ls -l
total 20
-rwxr-xr-x 1 ad ad 8442 2010-04-06 21:50 a.out
-rw-r--r-- 1 ad ad 375 2010-04-06 21:49 createfile.c
-rw-r--r-- 1 ad ad 506 2010-04-06 16:24 errors_demo.c
-rw-r--r-- 1 ad ad 0 2010-04-06 21:50 mytest
ad@thales:~/Transparencies/Set004/src$ cat > mytest
This is Kon Tsakalozos
ad@thales:~/Transparencies/Set004/src$ ./a.out
Managed to get to the file successfully
ad@thales:~/Transparencies/Set004/src$ ls
a.out createfile.c errors_demo.c mytest
ad@thales:~/Transparencies/Set004/src$ more mytest
This is Kon Tsakalozos
ad@thales:~/Transparencies/Set004/src$
```

Setting *modes* with symbolic names

S_IRWXU	00700 owner has read, write and execute permission
S_IRUSR	00400 owner has read permission
S_IWUSR	00200 owner has write permission
S_IXUSR	00100 owner has execute permission
S_IRWXG	00070 group has read, write and execute permission
S_IRGRP	00040 group has read permission
S_IWGRP	00020 group has write permission
S_IXGRP	00010 group has execute permission
S_IRWXO	00007 others have read, write and execute permission
S_IROTH	00004 others have read permission
S_IWOTH	00002 others have write permission
S_IXOTH	00001 others have execute permission

Working with access modes

```
#include <fcntl.h>
...
int fd;
mode_t mode = S_IRUSR | S_IWUSR | S_IRGRP | S_IROTH;
char *filename = "/tmp/file";
...
fd = open(filename, O_WRONLY | O_CREAT | O_TRUNC, mode);
...
```

1. If the call to *open()* is successful, the file is opened for reading/writing by the user.
2. Those in the “group” and “others” can read the file.

The *creat()* call

- ▶ The *creat* call is an alternative way to create a file (instead of using *open()*).
- ▶ *int creat(char *pathname, mode_t mode);*
- ▶ *pathname* is any Unix pathname giving the target location in which the file is to be created.
- ▶ *mode* helps set up the access rights.
- ▶ *creat* will always truncate an existing file before returning its file descriptor.

```
filedes = creat("/tmp/tsak", 0644);
```

is equivalent to:

```
filedes = open("/tmp/tsak", O_WRONLY | O_CREAT | O_TRUNC, 0644);
```

The *read()* call

- ▶ *ssize_t read(int fildes, char *buffer, ssize_t n)*
- ▶ Reads at most *n* bytes from a file, device, end-point of a pipe, socket that is designated by *fildes* and places the bytes in *buffer*.
- ▶ The call returns the number of bytes successfully read, 0 if we are past the last byte-already read, and -1 if a problem occurs.
- When do we read fewer bytes?
 1. The file has fewer characters left to be read.
 2. The operation is “interrupted” by a signal.
 3. Reading on a pipe/socket takes place and a character becomes available (in which case a while-loop is needed to read all characters).

Using the *read()* call (count.c)

```
#include <stdio.h>
#include <stdlib.h>
#include <fcntl.h>
#include <unistd.h>
#define BUFSIZE 27

main(){
    char buffer[BUFSIZE]; int  filedes; ssize_t nread; long total=0;

    if ((filedes=open("anotherfile", O_RDONLY))== -1){
        printf("error in opening anotherfile \n");
        exit(1);
    }

    while ( (nread=read(filedes,buffer,BUFSIZE)) > 0 )
        total += nread;
    printf("Total char in anotherfile %ld \n",total);
    exit(0);
}
```

Running the executable:

```
ad@thales:~/Transparencies/Set004/src$ ./a.out
Total char in anotherfile 936
ad@thales:~/Transparencies/Set004/src$
```

- What happens if *char *buffer=NULL;* is used instead of *char buffer[BUFSIZE];* ??

The *write()* and *close()* system calls

- ▶ *ssize_t write(int fildes, char *buffer, size_t n);*
- ▶ The calls writes at most *n* bytes of content from the *buffer* to the file that is described by *fildes*.
- ▶ *write* returns the number of bytes successfully written out to the file or -1 in case of failure.
- ▶ use the *write* call with: *#include <unistd.h>*
- ▶ *int close(int fildes);*
- ▶ releases the file descriptor *fildes*; returns 0 in case of successful release and -1 otherwise.
- ▶ use the *close* call with: *#include <unistd.h>*

Working with *open*, *read*, *write* and *close* calls

Write a program that appends the contents of a file to the contents of another file.

```
#include <stdio.h>
#include <string.h>
#include <stdlib.h>
#include <fcntl.h>
#include <unistd.h>
#include <sys/stat.h>
#define BUFFSIZE 1024

int main(int argc, char *argv[]){
    int n, from, to; char buf[BUFFSIZE];
    mode_t fdmode = S_IRUSR|S_IWUSR|S_IRGRP| S_IROTH;

    if (argc!=3) {
        write(2,"Usage: ", 7); write(2, argv[0], strlen(argv[0]));
        write(2," from-file to-file\n", 19); exit(1); }

    if ( ( from=open(argv[1], O_RDONLY)) < 0 ){
        perror("open"); exit(1); }

    if ( (to=open(argv[2], O_WRONLY|O_CREAT|O_APPEND , fdmode)) < 0 ){
        perror("open"); exit(1); }

    while ( (n=read(from, buf, sizeof(buf))) > 0 )
        write(to,buf,n);
    close(from); close(to); return(1);
}
```

Execution Outcome:

```
ad@thales:~/Transparencies/Set004/src$ ls
anotherfile      count.c          dupdup2file      mytest
                  writeafterend.c
a.out            createfile.c     errors_demo.c    mytest1
buffeffect.c     dupdup2.c        filecontrol.c    readwriteclose.c
ad@thales:~/Transparencies/Set004/src$ more mytest
This is Konstantinos Tsakalozos
ad@thales:~/Transparencies/Set004/src$ more mytest1
that I use to show something silly
use to show something silly
to show something silly
ad@thales:~/Transparencies/Set004/src$ ./a.out
Usage: ./a.out from-file to-file
ad@thales:~/Transparencies/Set004/src$ ./a.out mytest
mytest1
ad@thales:~/Transparencies/Set004/src$ cat mytest1
that I use to show something silly
use to show something silly
to show something silly
This is Konstantinos Tsakalozos
ad@thales:~/Transparencies/Set004/src$
```

Using *open*, *read*, *write* and *close* calls

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

int main(){
    int fd, bytes, bytes1, bytes2;
    char buf[50];

    mode_t fdmode = S_IRUSR|S_IWUSR;

    if ( ( fd=open("t", O_WRONLY | O_CREAT, fdmode ) ) == -1 ){
        perror("open");
        exit(1);
    }

    bytes1 = write(fd, "First write. ", 13);
    printf("%d bytes were written. \n", bytes1);
    close(fd);

    if ( (fd=open("t", O_WRONLY | O_APPEND)) == -1 ){
        perror("open");
        exit(1);
    }

    bytes2 = write(fd, "Second Write. \n", 14);
    printf("%d bytes were written. \n", bytes2);
    close(fd);
}
```

```

if ( (fd=open("t", O_RDONLY)) == -1 ){
    perror("open");
    exit(1);
}

bytes=read(fd, buf, bytes1+bytes2);
printf("%d bytes were read \n",bytes);
close(fd);

buf[bytes]='\0';
printf("%s\n",buf);
return(1);
}

```

Running the program..

```

ad@thales:~/Transparencies/Set004/src$ ls
anotherfile  count.c      errors_demo.c  readwriteclose.c
a.out        createfile.c  mytest
ad@thales:~/Transparencies/Set004/src$ ./a.out
13 bytes were written.
14 bytes were written.
27 bytes were read
First write. Second Write.
ad@thales:~/Transparencies/Set004/src$ ls
anotherfile  count.c      errors_demo.c  readwriteclose.c
a.out        createfile.c  mytest         t
ad@thales:~/Transparencies/Set004/src$

```

Copying a file with variable buffer size

```
#include <stdio.h>
#include <stdlib.h>
#include <unistd.h>
#include <fcntl.h>
#include <string.h>

#define SIZE          30
#define PERM          0644

int mycopyfile(char *name1, char *name2, int BUFFSIZE){
    int infile, outfile;
    ssize_t nread;
    char buffer[BUFFSIZE];

    if ( (infile=open(name1,O_RDONLY)) == -1 )
        return(-1);

    if ( (outfile=open(name2, O_WRONLY|O_CREAT|O_TRUNC, PERM)) == -1){
        close(infile);
        return(-2);
    }

    while ( (nread=read(infile, buffer, BUFFSIZE)) > 0 ){
        if ( write(outfile,buffer,nread) < nread ){
            close(infile); close(outfile); return(-3);
        }
    }
    close(infile); close(outfile);
}
```

Copying a file with variable buffer size

```
        if (nread == -1 ) return(-4);
        else      return(0);
}

int main(int argc, char *argv[]){
    int      status=0;

    status=mycopyfile (argv [1] ,argv [2] ,atoi (argv [3]));
    exit(status);
}
```

Running the program for various size buffers..

```
ad@thales:~/Transparencies/Set004/src$ time ./a.out /tmp/stuff.ppt /tmp/alex1
8192
real    0m0.012s user    0m0.000s sys     0m0.012s
ad@thales:~/Transparencies/Set004/src$ time ./a.out /tmp/stuff.ppt /tmp/alex1
4096
real    0m0.010s user    0m0.000s sys     0m0.008s
ad@thales:~/Transparencies/Set004/src$ time ./a.out /tmp/stuff.ppt /tmp/alex1
256
real    0m0.071s user    0m0.000s sys     0m0.072s
ad@thales:~/Transparencies/Set004/src$ time ./a.out /tmp/stuff.ppt /tmp/alex1 32
real    0m0.454s user    0m0.012s sys     0m0.444s
ad@thales:~/Transparencies/Set004/src$ time ./a.out /tmp/stuff.ppt /tmp/alex1 1
real    0m13.738s user    0m0.428s sys     0m13.305s
ad@thales:~/Transparencies/Set004/src$
```

lseek

- ▶ *off_t lseek(int filedes, off_t offset, int start_flag);*
- ▶ *lseek* repositions the offset of the open file associated with *filedes* to the argument *offset* according to the directive *start_flag* as follows:
 1. SEEK_SET: The offset is set to *offset* bytes; usual actual integer value = 0
 2. SEEK_CUR: The offset is set to its current location plus *offset* bytes; usual actual integer value = 1
 3. SEEK_END: The offset is set to the size of the file plus *offset* bytes. usual actual integer value = 2

```
off_t newposition;  
...  
newposition=lseek(fd, (off_t)-32, SEEK_END);
```

Positions the read/write pointer 32 bytes BEFORE the end of the file.

The *fcntl()* system call

- ▶ *int fcntl(int fildes, int cmd);*
int fcntl(int fildes, int cmd, long arg);
*int fcntl(int fildes, int cmd, struct flock *lock);*
- ▶ provides a degree of control over already-open files;
header files required: *<sys/types.h>*, *<unistd.h>*, *<fcntl.h>*.
- ▶ *fcntl()* performs one of the operations described below on the open file descriptor *fildes*. The operation is determined by *cmd* – values for the *cmd* appear in the *<fcntl.h>*.
- ▶ The value of the *third optional parameter (arg)* depends on what *cmd* does.
- ▶ Among other operations, *fcntl()* carries out two commands:
 1. *F_GETFL*: Read file status flags; *arg* is ignored.
 2. *F_SETFL*: Set file status flags to value specified by *arg*.

A routine for checking the flags of an open file

```
#include <fcntl.h>

int filestatus(int filedес){
    int myfileflags;

    if ( (myfileflags = fcntl(filedes,F_GETFL)) == -1){
        printf("file status failure\n"); return(-1);
    }
    printf("file descriptor: %d ",filedes);
    switch ( myfileflags & O_ACCMODE ){ //test against the open file flags
    case O_WRONLY:
        printf("write-only"); break;
    case O_RDWR:
        printf("read-write"); break;
    case O_RDONLY:
        printf("read-only"); break;
    default:
        printf("no such mode");
    }
    if ( myfileflags & O_APPEND ) printf("- append flag set"); printf("\n");
    return(0);
}
```

⇒ & : bitwise AND operator

⇒ *fcntl* can be used to acquire record locks (or locks on file segments).

calls: *dup*, *dup2*. Duplicate file descriptors

- ▶ *int dup(int oldfd);*
uses the lowest-numbered unused descriptor for the new descriptor.
- ▶ *int dup2(int oldfd, int newfd);*
makes *newfd* be the copy of *oldfd* - note:
 1. If *oldfd* is not a valid file descriptor, then the call fails, and *newfd* is not closed.
 2. If *oldfd* is a valid file descriptor, and *newfd* has the same value as *oldfd*, then *dup2()* does nothing, and returns *newfd*.
- ▶ After a successful return from one of these system calls, the old and new file descriptors may be used *interchangeably*.

Example of *dup* and *dup2*

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

int main(){
    int fd1, fd2, fd3;
    mode_t fdmode = S_IRUSR|S_IWUSR|S_IRGRP| S_IROTH;

    if ( ( fd1=open("dupdup2file", O_WRONLY | O_CREAT | O_TRUNC, fdmode ) ) == -1
        ){
        perror("open");
        exit(1);
    }
    printf("fd1 = %d\n", fd1);
    write(fd1, "What ", 5);
    fd2=dup(fd1);
    printf("fd2 = %d\n", fd2);
    write(fd2, "time", 4);
    close(0);

    fd3=dup(fd1);
    printf("fd3 = %d\n", fd3);
    write(fd3, " is it", 6);
    dup2(fd2, 2);
    write(2,"?\n",2);
    close(fd1); close(fd2); close(fd3);
    return 1;
}
```

Execution Outcome:

```
ad@thales:~/Transparencies/Set004/src$ ls
anotherfile    count.c        dupdup2file    mytest
a.out          createfile.c   errors_demo.c  readwriteclose.c
buffeffect.c   dupdup2.c      filecontrol.c
ad@thales:~/Transparencies/Set004/src$ ./a.out
fd1 = 3
fd2 = 4
fd3 = 0
ad@thales:~/Transparencies/Set004/src$ ls
anotherfile    count.c        dupdup2file    mytest
a.out          createfile.c   errors_demo.c  readwriteclose.c
buffeffect.c   dupdup2.c      filecontrol.c
ad@thales:~/Transparencies/Set004/src$ cat dupdup2file
What time is it?
ad@thales:~/Transparencies/Set004/src$
```

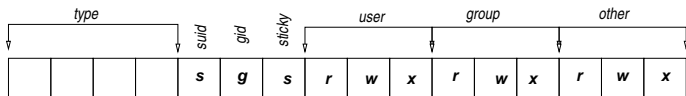
Accessing *inode* information with *stat()*

- ▶ *int stat(char *path, struct stat *buf);*
*int fstat(int fd, struct stat *buf);*

returns information about a file; *path* points to the file (or *fd*) and the *buf* structure helps “carry” all derived information.

- ▶ such information includes:
 1. *buf*→*st_dev*: ID of device containing file
 2. *buf*→*st_ino*: inode number
 3. *buf*→*st_mode*: the last 9 bits represent the access rights of owner, group, and others. The first 4 bits indicate the type of the node (after a bitwise-AND with the constant *S_IFMT*, if the outcome is *S_IFDIR*, the node is a catalog, if outcome is *S_IFREG*, the mode is a regular file etc.)
 4. *buf*→*st_nlink*: number of hard links
 5. *buf*→*st_uid*: user-ID of owner
 6. *buf*→*st_gid*: group ID of owner
 7. *buf*→*st_size*: total size, in bytes
 8. *buf*→*st_atime*: time of last access
 9. *buf*→*st_mtime*: time of last modification of content
 10. *buf*→*st_ctime*: time of last status change

st_mode is a 16-bit quantity



1. 4 first bits indicate the type of the file (16 possible values - less than 10 file types are in use now: regular file, dir, block-special, char-special, fifo, symbolic link, socket).
2. the next three bits set the flags: *set-user-ID*, *set-group-ID* and the *sticky* bits respectively.
3. next three groups of 3 bits a piece indicate the read/write/execute access right for the the groups: *owner*, *group* and *others*.
4. masking can be used to decipher the permissions each file entry is given.

stat-ing inodes

- ▶ The fields *st_atime*, *st_mtime* and *st_ctime* designate time as number of seconds past since 1/1/1970 of the Coordinated Universal Time (UTC).
- ▶ The function *ctime* helps bring the content of the fields *st_atime*, *st_mtime* and *st_ctime* in a more readable format (that of the *date*). The call is: *char *ctime(time_t *timep);*
- ▶ *stat* returns 0 if successful; otherwise, -1
- ▶ Header files needed:
<sys/stat.h> and <sys/types.h>
- ▶ *int fstat(int fd, struct stat *buf);* is identical to *stat* but it works with file descriptors.
- ▶ *int lstat(char *path, struct stat *buf);* is identical to *stat*, except that if path is a symbolic link, then the link itself is stat-ed, **not** the file that it refers to.

Definitions in `<sys/stat.h>`

```
#define S_IFMT      0170000    /* type of file */
#define S_IFREG     0100000    /* regular */
#define S_IFDIR     0040000    /* directory */
#define S_IFBLK     0060000    /* block special */
#define S_IFCHR     0020000    /* character special */
#define S_IFIFO     0010000    /* fifo */
#define S_IFLNK     0120000    /* symbolic link */
#define S_IFSOCK    0140000    /* socket */
```

Testing for a specific type of a file is easy using code fragments of the following style:

```
if ( (info.st_mode & S_IFMT) == S_IFIFO )
    printf("this is a fifo queue.\n");
```


Accessing information from inode

```
#include <stdio.h>
#include <stdlib.h>
#include <time.h>
#include <sys/stat.h>

int main(int argc, char *argv[]){
    struct stat statbuf;

    if (stat(argv[1], &statbuf) == -1){
        perror("Failed to get file status");
        exit(2);
    }
    else
        printf("%s accessed: %s modified: %s",argv[1],
            ctime(&statbuf.st_atime), ctime(&statbuf.st_mtime));

    return(1);
}
```

Running the program..

```
ad@thales:~/Transparencies/Set004/src$ ./a.out samplestat.c
samplestat.c accessed: Sat Apr 10 00:04:08 2010
modified: Sat Apr 10 00:04:08 2010
ad@thales:~/Transparencies/Set004/src$
```

Accessing Catalog Content

- ▶ The catalog content (i.e., pairs of *inodes* and node names) can be accessed with the help of the calls: *opendir*, *readdir* and *closedir*.
- ▶ Accessing of a catalog happens via a pointer *DIR ** (similar to the *FILE ** pointer that is used by *stdio*).
- ▶ Every item in the catalog is weaved around a structure called *struct dirent* that includes the following two elements:
 1. *d_ino*: inode number;
 2. *d_name[]*: a character string giving the filename (null terminated)
- ▶ Using these calls, it is not feasible to change the content of the directory or its structure.
- ▶ Required header files: *<sys/types.h>* and *<dirent.h>*

calls: *opendir*, *readdir*, *closedir*

- ▶ *DIR *opendir(char *name)*:
 1. Opens up the catalog termed *name* and returns a pointer type *DIR* for accessing the catalog.
 2. If there is a mistake, the call returns NULL
- ▶ *struct dirent *readdir(DIR *dirp)*:
 1. the call returns a pointer to a *dirent* structure representing the next entry in the directory pointed to by *dirp*
 2. if for the current entry the field *d_ino* (of struct *dirent*) is 0, the respective entry has been deleted.
 3. returns NULL if there are no more entries to be read.
- ▶ *int closedir(DIR *dirp)*:
 1. closes the directory associated with *dirp*
 2. function returns 0 on success. On error, -1 is returned, and *errno* is set appropriately.

Example

```
#include <stdio.h>
#include <sys/types.h>
#include <dirent.h>

void do_ls(char dirname[]){
    DIR *dir_ptr;
    struct dirent *direntp;

    if ( ( dir_ptr = opendir( dirname ) ) == NULL )
        fprintf(stderr, "cannot open %s \n",dirname);
    else{
        while ( ( direntp=readdir(dir_ptr) ) != NULL )
            printf("%s\n", direntp->d_name) ;
        closedir(dir_ptr);
    }
}

int main(int argc, char *argv[]) {
    if (argc == 1 ) do_ls(".");
    else while ( --argc ){
        printf("%s: \n", *++argv ) ;
        do_ls(*argv);
    }
}
```

Execution Outcome

```
ad@thales : ~/Transparencies/Set004/src$ ./a.out
.
count.c
dupdup2.c
mytest
a.out
createfile.c
samplestat.c
writeafterend.c
readwriteclose.c
filecontrol.c
openreadclosedir.c
buffeffect.c
mytest1
dupdup2file
errors_demo.c
anotherfile
..
ad@thales : ~/Transparencies/Set004/src$
```

Creating a program that behaves like *ls -la*

```
#include <sys/types.h>
#include <sys/stat.h>
#include <dirent.h>
#include <stdio.h>
#include <stdlib.h>
#include <string.h>
#include <time.h>

char *modes[]={ "---", "--x", "-w-", "-wx", "r--", "r-x", "rw-", "rwx" };
           // eight distinct modes

void list(char *);
void printout(char *);

main(int argc, char *argv[]){
    struct stat mybuf;

    if (argc<2) { list("."); exit(0);}

    while(--argc){
        if (stat(*++argv, &mybuf) < 0) {
            perror(*argv); continue;
        }

        if ((mybuf.st_mode & S_IFMT) == S_IFDIR )
            list(*argv);           // directory encountered
        else printout(*argv);      // file encountered
    }
}
```

Creating a program that behaves like *ls -la*

```
void list(char *name){
    DIR      *dp;
    struct dirent *dir;
    char      *newname;

    if ((dp=opendir(name))== NULL ) {
        perror("opendir"); return;
    }
    while ((dir = readdir(dp)) != NULL ) {
        if (dir->d_ino == 0 ) continue;
        newname=(char *)malloc(strlen(name)+strlen(dir->d_name)+2);
        strcpy(newname,name);
        strcat(newname,"/");
        strcat(newname,dir->d_name);
        printout(newname);
        free(newname); newname=NULL;
    }
    close(dp);
}
```

Creating a program that behaves like *ls -la*

```
void printout(char *name){
    struct stat    mybuf;
    char          type, perms[10];
    int           i,j;

    stat(name, &mybuf);
    switch (mybuf.st_mode & S_IFMT){
        case S_IFREG: type = '-'; break;
        case S_IFDIR: type = 'd'; break;
        default:      type = '?'; break;
    }

    *perms='\0';

    for(i=2; i>=0; i--){
        j = (mybuf.st_mode >> (i*3)) & 07;
        strcat(perms,modes[j]);
    }

    printf("%c%s%3d %5d/%-5d %7d %.12s %s \n",\
        type, perms, mybuf.st_nlink, mybuf.st_uid, mybuf.st_gid, \
        mybuf.st_size, ctime(&mybuf.st_mtime)+4, name);
}
```



```
ad@thales :~/Transparencies/Set004/src$ ./a.out mydir
drwxr-xr-x 10 1000/1000 4096 Apr 11 01:05 mydir/.
drwxr-xr-x 2 1000/1000 4096 Apr 10 01:24 mydir/e
drwxr-xr-x 2 1000/1000 4096 Apr 10 01:24 mydir/g
-rw-r--r-- 1 1000/1000 368 Apr 11 01:05 mydir/i
drwxr-xr-x 2 1000/1000 4096 Apr 10 01:24 mydir/f
-rw-r--r-- 1 1000/1000 750 Apr 11 01:05 mydir/j
drwxr-xr-x 2 1000/1000 4096 Apr 10 01:24 mydir/b
drwxr-xr-x 2 1000/1000 4096 Apr 10 01:24 mydir/h
drwxr-xr-x 2 1000/1000 4096 Apr 10 01:24 mydir/c
drwxr-xr-x 2 1000/1000 4096 Apr 10 01:24 mydir/d
drwx----- 3 1000/1000 4096 Apr 11 01:04 mydir/..
-rw-r--r-- 1 1000/1000 12 Apr 11 01:05 mydir/k
drwxr-xr-x 2 1000/1000 4096 Apr 10 01:24 mydir/a
ad@thales :~/Transparencies/Set004/src$
```

link and *unlink*

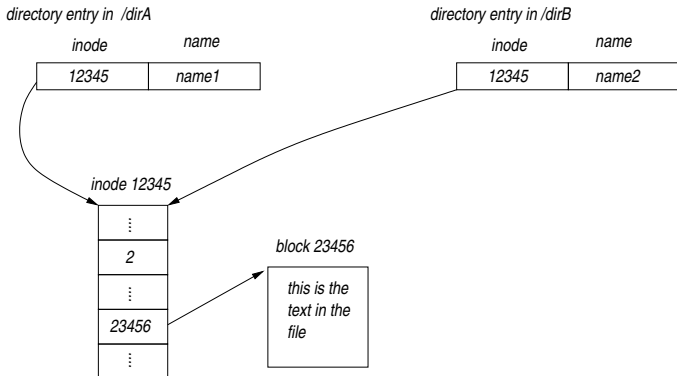
- ▶ *int unlink(char *pathname)*
- ▶ Deletes a name from the file system; if that name is the last link to a file and no other process has the file open, the file is deleted and its space is made available.

- ▶ *int link(char *oldpath, char *newpath)*
- ▶ It creates a new hard link to an existing file. If *newpath* exists, it will not be overwritten.
- ▶ The created link essentially connects the inode of the *oldpath* with the name of the *newpath*.

Example on *link*

```
#include <stdio.h>
#include <unistd.h>

....
if ( link("/dirA/name1","/dirB/name2")== -1 )
    perror("Failed to make a new hard link in /dirB");
....
```



chmod, rename calls

- ▶ *int chmod(char *path, mode_t mode)*
int fchmod(int fd, mode_t mode)
- ▶ Change the permissions (on files with *path* name or having an *fd* descriptor) according to what *mode* designates.
- ▶ On success, 0 is returned; otherwise -1

- ▶ *int rename(const char *oldpath, const char *newpath)*
- ▶ Renames a file, moving it between directories (indicated with the help of *oldpath* and *newpath*) if required.
- ▶ On success, 0 is returned; otherwise -1

symlink and *readlink* calls

- ▶ *int symlink(const char *oldpath, const char *newpath)*
- ▶ Creates a symbolic link named *newpath* that contains the string *oldpath*.
- ▶ A symbolic link (or soft link) may point to an existing file or to a nonexistent one; the latter is known as a **dangling link**.
- ▶ On success, zero is returned. On error, -1 is returned, and *errno* is set appropriately.

- ▶ *ssize_t readlink(char *path, char *buf, size_t bufsiz)*
- ▶ Places the contents of the symbolic link *path* (i.e., the string for the path that the link points to) in the buffer *buf* that has size *bufsiz*.
- ▶ On success, *readlink* returns the number of bytes placed in *buf*, otherwise, -1.

Signals

- ▶ Signals provide a simple method to transmit software interrupts to processes. They occur when:
 - There is an error during the execution of a job.
 - Events created with the help of input devices (control-z, control-d, control-\ etc.
 - A process notifies another about an event.
 - Issuing of a kill command to a job.
- ▶ Signals are identified with integer number.
 - a unique number represents each different type of signal.
- ▶ Signals provide a way to handle asynchronous events: a user at a terminal typing the interrupt key to suspend a program in execution.

Signals

- ▶ Signals take place at what appears to be “random time” to the process.
- ▶ We can ask the kernel to do one of the following things when a signal occurs:
 - ▶ Ignore the signal (two signals can never be ignored, though: *SIGKILL* & *SIGSTOP*).
 - ▶ Catch the signal (we do that by informing the kernel to call a function of ours whenever a signal occurs).
 - ▶ Let the default action apply (every signal has a default action)

Some of the POSIX Signals

		Action	

SIGHUP	1	Term	Hangup detected on controlling terminal or death of controlling process
SIGINT	2	Term	Interrupt from keyboard
SIGQUIT	3	Core	Quit from keyboard
SIGILL	4	Core	Illegal Instruction
SIGABRT	6	Core	Abort signal from abort(3)
SIGFPE	8	Core	Floating point exception
SIGKILL	9	Term	Kill signal
SIGSEGV	11	Core	Invalid memory reference
SIGPIPE	13	Term	Broken pipe: write to pipe with no readers
SIGALRM	14	Term	Timer signal from alarm(2)
SIGTERM	15	Term	Termination signal
SIGUSR1	10	Term	User-defined signal 1
SIGUSR2	12	Term	User-defined signal 2
SIGCHLD	17	Ign	Child stopped or terminated
SIGCONT	18	Cont	Continue if stopped
SIGSTOP	19	Stop	Stop process
SIGTSTP	20	Stop	Stop typed at tty
SIGTTIN	21	Stop	tty input for background process
SIGTTOU	22	Stop	tty output for background process
SIGBUS	7	Core	Bus error (bad memory access)

Actions

The "Action" column above specifies the default *disposition* for each (how the process behaves when it is delivered the signal):

- ▶ Term: Default action is to **terminate** the process.
 - ▶ Ign: Default action is to **ignore** the signal.
 - ▶ Core: Default action is to terminate the process & **dump-core**.
 - ▶ Stop: Default action is to **stop** the process.
 - ▶ Cont: Default action is to **continue** the process if it is currently stopped.
- If any of the signals is used, the header file `<signal.h>` must be included.

Sending a signal with *kill*

- ▶ *kill [-signal] pid ...*
kill [-s signal] pid ...
send a specific signal to process(es)

```
kill -USR1 3424  
kill -s USR1 3424  
kill -9 3424
```

- ▶ *kill -l [signal]* : provide a listing of all available signals

```
ad@sydney: ~/Desktop/Set004$ kill -l  
1)  SIGHUP    2)  SIGINT    3)  SIGQUIT    4)  SIGILL     5)  SIGTRAP  
6)  SIGABRT   7)  SIGBUS    8)  SIGFPE     9)  SIGKILL   10) SIGUSR1  
11) SIGSEGV   12) SIGUSR2   13) SIGPIPE   14) SIGALRM   15) SIGTERM  
16) SIGSTKFLT 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     30) SIGPWR  
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 62) SIGRTMAX-2  
63) SIGRTMAX-1 64) SIGRTMAX  
ad@sydney: ~/Desktop/Set004$
```

Sending a signal to a process through the *kill* system call

- ▶

```
#include <sys/types.h>
#include <signal.h>
int kill(pid_t pid, int sig);
```
- ▶ Signal *sig* is sent to process with *pid*
- ▶ Should the receiving and dispatching processes belong to the same user or the dispatching process is the superuser the signal can be successfully sent.
- ▶ If *sig* is 0 then no signal is dispatched.
- ▶ On success (at least one signal was sent), zero is returned. On error, -1 is returned, and *errno* is set appropriately.

The *signal* system call

- ▶ *#include <signal.h>*
*typedef void (*sighandler_t)(int);*
sighandler_t signal(int signum, sighandler_t handler);
- ▶ The *signal()* call installs a new signal handler for the signal with number *signum*. The signal handler is set to *handler* which may be a user-specified function or either *SIG_IGN* or *SIG_DFL*.
- ▶ *signal()* returns the previous value of the signal handler, or *SIG_ERR* on error.
- ▶ This call is the traditional way of handling signals.

Example

```
#include <stdio.h>
#include <signal.h>

void f(int);

int main(){
    int i;

    signal(SIGINT, f);
    for(i=0; i<5; i++){
        printf("hello\n");
        sleep(1);
    }
}

void f(int signal){    /* no explicit call to function f          */
    signal(SIGINT, f); /* re-establish disposition of the signal SIGINT */
    printf("OUCH!\n");
}
```

```
ad@sydney: ~/Desktop/Set004/src$ ./a.out
hello
hello
^COUCH!
hello
hello
^COUCH!
hello
^COUCH!
ad@sydney: ~/Desktop/Set004/src$
```

Ignoring a Signal

```
#include <stdio.h>
#include <signal.h>

int main(){
    int i;
    signal(SIGINT, SIG_IGN);
    printf("you can't stop me here! \n");
    while(1){
        sleep(1);
        printf("haha \n");
    }
} /* use cntrl-\ to get rid of this process */
```

```
ad@sydney:~/Desktop/Set004/src$ ./a.out
you can't stop me here!
haha
haha
haha
^Chaha
haha
haha
^Ghaha
haha
^Chaha
haha
haha
^Quit
ad@sydney:~/Desktop/Set004/src$
```

The *pause*, *raise* calls

- ▶ `#include <unistd.h>`
`int pause(void);`
- ▶ causes the invoking process (or thread) to sleep until a signal is received that either terminates it or causes it to call a signal-handler.
- ▶ returns when a signal was caught and the signal-handling function returned. In this case *pause* returns -1, and *errno* is set to *EINTR*.
- ▶ `#include <signal.h>`
`int raise(int sig);`
- ▶ sends a signal to the invoking process; it is equivalent to:
`kill(getpid(), sig);`
- ▶ returns 0 on success, non-zero for failure.

The *alarm* call

- ▶ `#include <unistd.h>`
`unsigned int alarm(unsigned int seconds);`
- ▶ `alarm()` delivers a *SIGALRM* to the invoking process in *seconds* secs.
- ▶ In any event, any previously set `alarm()` is cancelled.
- ▶ returns the number of seconds remaining until any previously scheduled alarm was due to be delivered; otherwise, 0.

```
#include <stdio.h>
#include <unistd.h>

main(){
    alarm(3); // schedule an alarm signal
    printf("Looping for good!");
    while (1) ;
    printf("This line should be never part of the output\n");
}
```

```
ad@sydney:~/Desktop/Set004/src$ date; ./a.out ; date
Mon Apr 12 22:20:41 EEST 2010
Alarm clock
Mon Apr 12 22:20:44 EEST 2010
ad@sydney:~/Desktop/Set004/src$
```


Example with *signal*, *alarm* and *pause*

```
#include <stdio.h>
#include <signal.h>

main(){
    void wakeup(int);
    printf("about to sleep for 5 seconds \n");
    signal(SIGALRM, wakeup);

    alarm(5);
    pause();
    printf("Hola Amigo\n");
}

void wakeup(int signum){
    printf("Alarm received from kernel\n");
}
```

```
ad@sydney: ~/Desktop/Set004/src$ ./a.out
about to sleep for 5 seconds
Alarm received from kernel
Hola Amigo
ad@sydney: ~/Desktop/Set004/src$
```

Unreliable Signals – a headache in “older” Unix

```
int sig_int();
...
signal(SIGINT, sig_int());
...
...

sig_int(){
    /* this is the point of possible problems */
    signal(SIGINT, sig_int);
    ...
}
```

1. After a signal has occurred but before the call to *sig_int* is in the signal handler body, another signal occurs.
2. The second signal would cause the default action which is for the signal to *terminate* the process.
3. Although we may think it works correctly, the mechanism does not work well as we “lose” a signal in the process.

Unreliable Signals

- Processes could NOT turn a signal off if they did not “want” the signal to occur.
- Impossible to reliably wait until some condition is satisfied

```
int my_sig_flag=0;
...
main(){
    int my_sig_int();
    ...
    signal(SIGINT, my_sig_int);
    ...
    while (my_sig_flag == 0)
        /* point with possible problem in here */
        pause();
    ...
}

my_sig_int(){
    signal(SIGINT, my_sig_int);
    my_sig_flag=1;
}
```

◇ Under “normal” circumstances the process would “pause” until it received a *SIGINT* and then continue on to other actions (past the *while* statement) as the predicate would be false.

Unreliable Signals

There is a small chance that things would go wrong...

1. If the signal takes place **after** the predicate evaluation **but before** the call to *pause*, the process could go on to sleep for ever! (provided that another signal is not generated)
2. In the above scenario the signal is *lost*!
3. Such code is not correct yet it works most of the time...

Unreliable Signal-ing

```
#include <stdio.h>
#include <unistd.h>
#include <sys/types.h>
#include <signal.h>

void foohandler(int);
int flag=0;

int main(){
    int lpid=0;
    printf("The process ID of this program is %d \n",getpid());
    lpid=getpid();
    signal(SIGINT, foohandler);
    while (flag==0){
        kill(lpid, SIGINT);    /* this is the 'first' signal */
        pause();
    }
}

void foohandler(int signum){    /* no explicit call to handler foo */
    signal(SIGINT, foohandler); /* re-establish handler for next time */
    flag=1;
}
```

Unreliable signal-ing

- Running the program, we get into the *pause* (the first signal does not appear to get into handler):

```
ad@ad-desktop:~/Set004/src$ ./a.out
The process ID of this program is 5725
```

The (first) signal seems to be “lost” ..

- Forcing a second interrupt with *control-C*, ends the program (normally):

```
ad@ad-desktop:~/Set004/src$ ./a.out
ad@ad-desktop:~/Set004/src$ ./a.out
The process ID of this program is 5725
^Cad@ad-desktop:~/Set004/src$
```

- ◉ *Signal Sets* provide a (*POSIX*) reliable way to deal with signals.

POSIX Signal Sets

- ▶ Signal sets are defined using the type *sigset_t*.
- ▶ Sets are large enough to hold a representation of *all* signals in the system.
- ▶ We may indicate interest in specific signals by empty-ing a set and then add-ing signals or by using a full set and then by selectively delete-ing certain signals.
- ▶ Initialization of signals happens through:
 - *int sigemptyset(sigset_t *set);*
 - *int sigfillset(sigset_t *set);*
- ▶ Manipulation of signals sets happens via:
 - *int sigaddset(sigset_t *set, int signo);*
 - *int sigdelset(sigset_t *set, int signo);*
- ▶ Membership in a signal set:
 - *int sigismember(sigset_t *set, int signo)*

Example in creating different Signal sets

```
#include <signal.h>

sigset_t mask1, mask2;
...
...
sigempty(&mask1);           // create an empty mask
...
sigaddset(&mask1, SIGINT);   // add signal SIGINT
sigaddset(&mask1, SIGQUIT);  // add signal SIGQUIT
...
sigfillset(&mask2);          // create a full mask
...
sigdelset(&mask2, SIGCHLD);  // remove signal SIGCHLD
....
...
```

- *mask1* is created entirely empty.
- *mask2* is created entirely full.

sigaction() call

- ▶ Once a set has been defined, we can elect a specific method to handle a signal with the help of *sigaction()*.
- ▶ *int sigaction(int signo, const struct sigaction *act, struct sigaction *oldact);*
- ▶ The *sigaction* structure is:

```
struct sigaction {  
    void (*sa_handler)(int); // action to be taken  
    sigset_t sa_mask;        // additional signals to be blocked during the  
                             // handling of the signal  
    int sa_flags;            // flags controlling handler invocation  
    void (*sa_sigaction)(int, siginfo_t *, void *);  
                             // pointer to a signal handler in applications  
};
```

Elements of the *sigaction* structure (a)

- ▶ *sa_handler* field: identifies the action to be taken when the signal *signo* is received (previous slide)
 1. *SIG_DFL*: restores the system's default action
 2. *SIG_IGN*: ignores the signal
 3. The address of a function which takes an int as argument. The function will be executed when a signal of type *signo* is received and the value of *signo* is passed as parameter. Control is passed to function as soon as signal is received and when function returns, control is passed back to the point at which the process was interrupted.
- ▶ *sa_mask* field: the signals specified here will be blocked during the execution of the *sa_handler*.

Elements of the *sigaction* structure (b)

- ▶ *sa_flags* field: used to modify the behavior of *signo* – the originally specified signal.
 1. A signal's action is reset to SIG_DFL on return from the handler by *sa_flags=SA_RESETHAND*
 2. Extra information will be passed to signal handler, if *sa_flags=SIG_INFO*. Here, *sa_handler* is redundant and the final field *sa_sigaction* is used.
- ▶ Good idea to either use *sa_handler* or *sa_sigaction*.

Use of *sigaction*

```
#include <stdio.h>
#include <stdlib.h>
#include <signal.h>

void catchinterrupt(int signo){
    printf("\n-catching: signo=%d\n",signo);
    printf("-catching: returning\n");
}

main(){
    static struct sigaction act;

    act.sa_handler=catchinterrupt;
    sigfillset(&(act.sa_mask));

    sigaction(SIGINT, &act, NULL);

    printf("sleep call #1\n");
    sleep(1);
    printf("sleep call #2\n");
    sleep(1);
    printf("sleep call #3\n");
    sleep(1);
    printf("sleep call #4\n");
    sleep(1);
    printf("Exiting \n");
    exit(0);
}
```

Regardless of where the program is interrupted, it resumes execution and carries on

```
ad@ad-desktop:~/Set004/src$ ./a.out
sleep call #1
sleep call #2
^C
Catching: signo=2
Catching: returning
sleep call #3
^C
Catching: signo=2
Catching: returning
sleep call #4
^C
Catching: signo=2
Catching: returning
Exiting
ad@ad-desktop:~/Set004/src$
```

```
ad@ad-desktop:~/Set004/src$ ./a.out
sleep call #1
sleep call #2
^C
Catching: signo=2
Catching: returning
sleep call #3
sleep call #4
Exiting
ad@ad-desktop:~/Set004/src$
```

Changing the behavior of program in interrupt

```
#include <stdio.h>
#include <stdlib.h>
#include <signal.h>

main(){
    static struct sigaction act;

    act.sa_handler=SIG_IGN;    // the handler is set to IGNORE
    sigfillset(&(act.sa_mask));

    sigaction(SIGINT, &act, NULL);    // control-c
    sigaction(SIGTSTP, &act, NULL);    // control-z

    printf("sleep call #1\n"); sleep(1);
    printf("sleep call #2\n"); sleep(1);
    printf("sleep call #3\n"); sleep(1);

    act.sa_handler=SIG_DFL;    // reestablish the DEFAULT behavior
    sigaction(SIGINT, &act, NULL);    // default for control-c

    printf("sleep call #4\n"); sleep(1);
    printf("sleep call #5\n"); sleep(1);
    printf("sleep call #6\n"); sleep(1);

    sigaction(SIGTSTP, &act, NULL);    // default for control-z
    printf("Exiting \n");
    exit(0);
}
```

Running the Program...

```
ad@ad-desktop:~/Set004/src$ ./a.out
./a.out
sleep call #1
^Csleep call #2
^Z^Csleep call #3
sleep call #4
sleep call #5
^Zsleep call #6
Exiting
ad@ad-desktop:~/Set004/src$ ./a.out
sleep call #1
sleep call #2
sleep call #3
sleep call #4
sleep call #5
^C
ad@ad-desktop:~/Set004/src$ ./a.out
sleep call #1
^Csleep call #2
^C^Z^Zsleep call #3
^Z^Zsleep call #4
^Z^Zsleep call #5
^Z^Zsleep call #6
^ZExiting
ad@ad-desktop:~/Set004/src$
```

Restoring a *previous* action

```
#include <stdio.h>
#include <stdlib.h>
#include <signal.h>

main(){
    static struct sigaction act, oldact;

    printf("Saving the default way of handling the control=c\n");
    sigaction(SIGINT, NULL, &oldact);
    printf("sleep call #1\n"); sleep(4);

    printf("Changing (Ignoring) the way of handling\n");
    act.sa_handler=SIG_IGN; // the handler is set to IGNORE
    sigfillset(&(act.sa_mask));
    sigaction(SIGINT, &act, NULL);

    printf("sleep call #2\n"); sleep(4);

    printf("Reestablishing to old way of handling\n");
    sigaction(SIGINT, &oldact, NULL);
    printf("sleep call #3\n"); sleep(4);

    printf("Exiting \n");
    exit(0);
}
```



```
ad@ad-desktop: ~/Set004/src$ ./a.out
Saving the default way of handling the control=c
sleep call #1
^C
ad@ad-desktop:~/Set004/src$
ad@ad-desktop:~/Set004/src$
ad@ad-desktop:~/Set004/src$
ad@ad-desktop:~/Set004/src$
ad@ad-desktop:~/Set004/src$ ./a.out
Saving the default way of handling the control=c
sleep call #1
Changing (Ignoring) the way of handling
sleep call #2
^C^C^C^C^C^C^C^C^CRestablishing to old way of handling
sleep call #3
^C
ad@ad-desktop:~/Set004/src$
```

Blocking Signals

- ▶ Occasionally, a program wants to *block* altogether (rather than ignore) incoming signals
- ▶ blocked signals remain pending and get delivered when unblocked
- ▶ `int sigprocmask(int how, const sigset_t *set, sigset_t *oldset)`
- ▶ *how* indicates what specific action *sigprocmask* should take:
 1. *SIG_BLOCK*: set of blocked signals is the union of the current set and the *set* argument.
 2. *SIG_UNBLOCK*: signals in set are removed from the current set of blocked signals.
 3. *SIG_SETMASK*: group of blocked signals is set to *set*
- ▶ If *oldset* is non-null, the previous value of signal mask is stored in *oldset*.
- ▶ If *set* is NULL, the signal mask is unchanged and current value of mask is returned in *oldset* (if it is not NULL);

Code sample using *sigprocmask()*

```
#include <stdio.h>
#include <stdlib.h>
#include <signal.h>

main(){
    sigset_t set1, set2;

    sigfillset(&set1); // completely full set

    sigfillset(&set2);
    sigdelset(&set2, SIGINT);
    sigdelset(&set2, SIGTSTP); // a set minus INT & TSTP

    printf("This is simple code... \n");
    sleep(5);
    sigprocmask(SIG_SETMASK, &set1, NULL); // disallow everything here!

    printf("This is CRITICAL code... \n"); sleep(10);

    sigprocmask(SIG_UNBLOCK, &set2, NULL); // allow all but INT & TSTP
    printf("This is less CRITICAL code... \n"); sleep(5);
    sigprocmask(SIG_UNBLOCK, &set1, NULL); // unblock all signals in set1
    printf("All signals are welcome!\n");
    exit(0);
}
```

Working with the *sigprocmask*

```
ad@ad-desktop:~/Set004/src$ ./a.out
This is simple code...
^C
ad@ad-desktop:~/Set004/src$ ./a.out
This is simple code...
This is CRITICAL code...
^Z^Z^C^C^X^X^C^C^Z^Z
This is less CRITICAL code...
^C
ad@ad-desktop:~/Set004/src$ ./a.out
This is simple code...
This is CRITICAL code...
^Z^C^Z^C^Z^C^Z
This is less CRITICAL code...
^\\Quit
ad@ad-desktop:~/Set004/src$ fg
bash: fg: current: no such job
ad@ad-desktop:~/Set004/src$ ./a.out
This is simple code...
This is CRITICAL code...
This is less CRITICAL code...
All signals are welcome!
ad@ad-desktop:~/Set004/src$
ad@ad-desktop:~/Set004/src$
```