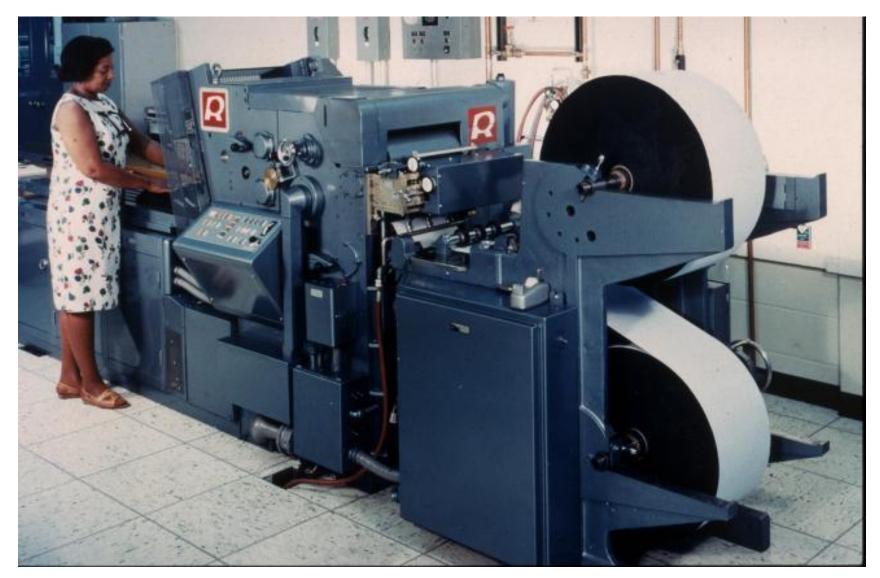
Exceptional Control Flow: Exceptions and Processes

15-213/18-213/15-513: Introduction to Computer Systems 19th Lecture, July 10, 2020

Printers Used to Catch on Fire



Highly Exceptional Control Flow

```
static int lp check status(int minor)
234
235
     {
236
             int error = 0;
             unsigned int last = lp table[minor].last error;
237
238
             unsigned char status = r str(minor);
             if ((status & LP PERRORP) && !(LP F(minor) & LP CAREFUL))
239
240
                      /* No error. */
                     last = 0;
241
242
             else if ((status & LP POUTPA)) {
243
                     if (last != LP POUTPA) {
244
                              last = LP POUTPA;
245
                              printk(KERN INFO "lp%d out of paper\n", minor);
246
247
                      error = -ENOSPC;
248
             } else if (!(status & LP PSELECD)) {
                     if (last != LP PSELECD) {
249
250
                              last = LP PSELECD;
251
                              printk(KERN INFO "lp%d off-line\n", minor);
252
253
                      error = -EIO;
254
               else if (!(status & LP PERRORP)) {
             }
255
                      if (last != LP PERRORP) {
256
                              last = LP PERRORP;
257
                              printk(KERN INFO "lp%d on fire\n", minor);
258
259
                      error = -EIO;
260
             } else {
261
                      last = 0; /* Come here if LP CAREFUL is set and no
262
                                   errors are reported. */
263
             }
264
265
             lp table[minor].last error = last;
266
267
             if (last != 0)
268
                     lp error(minor);
269
270
             return error;
271
                             https://git.kernel.org/pub/scm/linux/kernel/git/torvalds/linux.git/tree/drivers/char/lp.c?h=v5.0-rc3
```

Today

Exceptional Control Flow

Exceptions

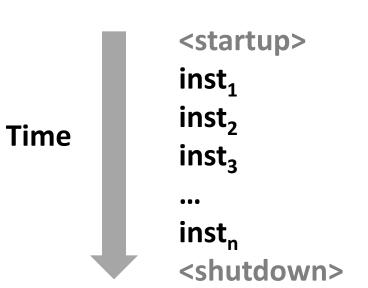
Processes

Process Control

Control Flow

Processors do only one thing:

- From startup to shutdown, a CPU simply reads and executes (interprets) a sequence of instructions, one at a time
- This sequence is the CPU's control flow (or flow of control)



Physical control flow

Altering the Control Flow

Up to now: two mechanisms for changing control flow:

- Jumps and branches
- Call and return

React to changes in *program state*

- Insufficient for a useful system:
 Difficult to react to changes in system state
 - Data arrives from a disk or a network adapter
 - Instruction divides by zero
 - User hits Ctrl-C at the keyboard
 - System timer expires

System needs mechanisms for "exceptional control flow"

Exceptional Control Flow

- Exists at all levels of a computer system
- Low level mechanisms
 - 1. Exceptions
 - Change in control flow in response to a system event (i.e., change in system state)
 - Implemented using combination of hardware and OS software

Higher level mechanisms

- 2. Process context switch
 - Implemented by OS software and hardware timer
- 3. Signals
 - Implemented by OS software
- 4. Nonlocal jumps: setjmp() and longjmp()
 - Implemented by C runtime library

Today

- Exceptional Control Flow
- Exceptions

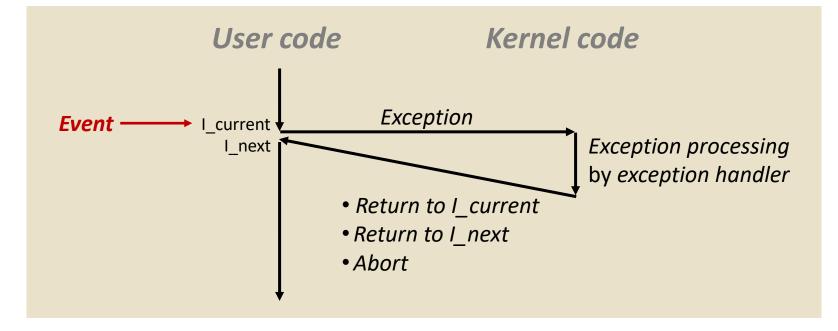
Processes

Process Control

Exceptions

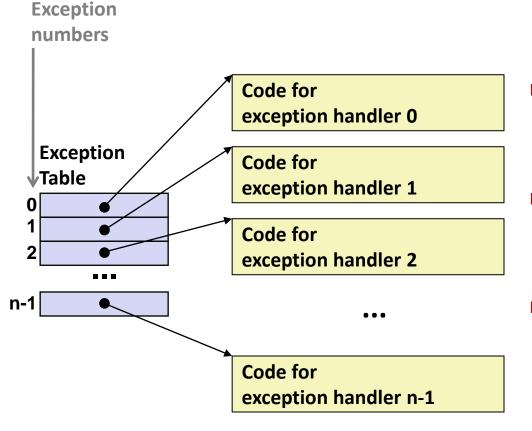
An exception is a transfer of control to the OS kernel in response to some event (i.e., change in processor state)

- Kernel is the memory-resident part of the OS
- Examples of events: Divide by 0, arithmetic overflow, page fault, I/O request completes, typing Ctrl-C

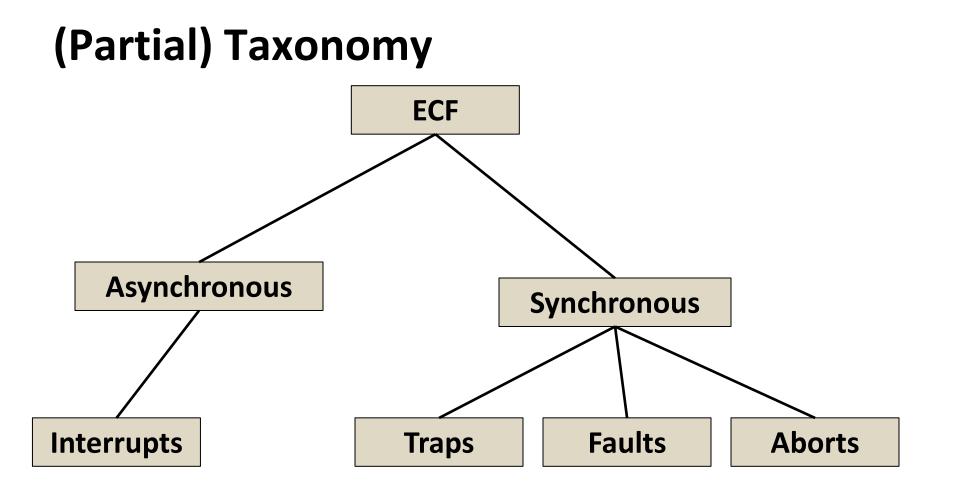


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Exception Tables



- Each type of event has a unique exception number k
- k = index into exception table (a.k.a. interrupt vector)
- Handler k is called each time exception k occurs



Asynchronous Exceptions (Interrupts)

Caused by events external to the processor

- Indicated by setting the processor's interrupt pin
- Handler returns to "next" instruction

Examples:

- Timer interrupt
 - Every few ms, an external timer chip triggers an interrupt
 - Used by the kernel to take back control from user programs
- I/O interrupt from external device
 - Hitting Ctrl-C at the keyboard
 - Arrival of a packet from a network
 - Arrival of data from a disk

Synchronous Exceptions

- Caused by events that occur as a result of executing an instruction:
 - Traps
 - Intentional, set program up to "trip the trap" and do something
 - Examples: system calls, gdb breakpoints
 - Returns control to "next" instruction
 - Faults
 - Unintentional but possibly recoverable
 - Examples: page faults (recoverable), protection faults (unrecoverable), floating point exceptions
 - Either re-executes faulting ("current") instruction or aborts
 - Aborts
 - Unintentional and unrecoverable
 - Examples: illegal instruction, parity error, machine check
 - Aborts current program

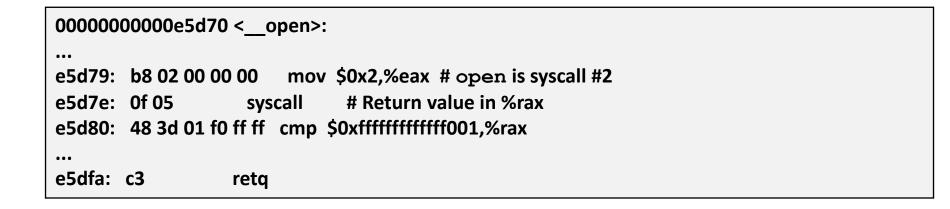
System Calls

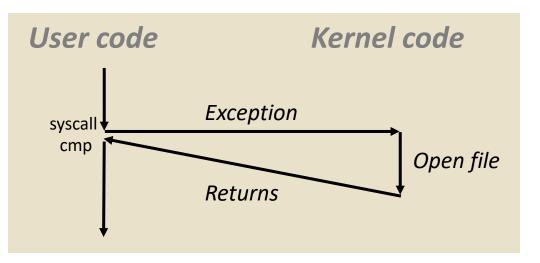
- Each x86-64 system call has a unique ID number
- Examples:

Number	Name	Description
0	read	Read file
1	write	Write file
2	open	Open file
3	close	Close file
4	stat	Get info about file
57	fork	Create process
59	execve	Execute a program
60	_exit	Terminate process
62	kill	Send signal to process

System Call Example: Opening File

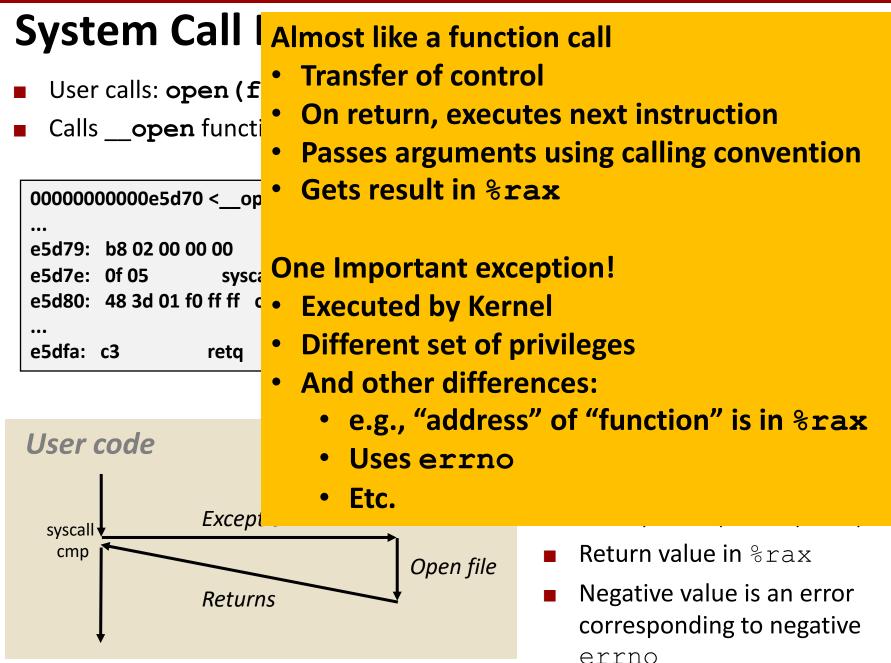
- User calls: open(filename, options)
- Calls __open function, which invokes system call instruction syscall





- %rax contains syscall number
- Other arguments in %rdi, %rsi, %rdx, %r10, %r8, %r9
- Return value in %rax
- Negative value is an error corresponding to negative errno

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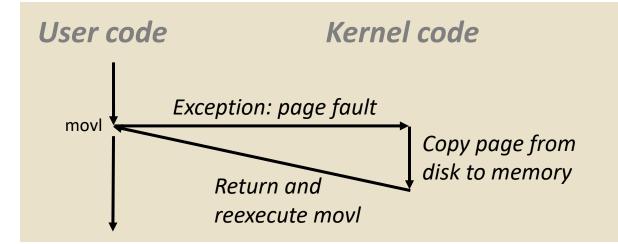
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Fault Example: Page Fault

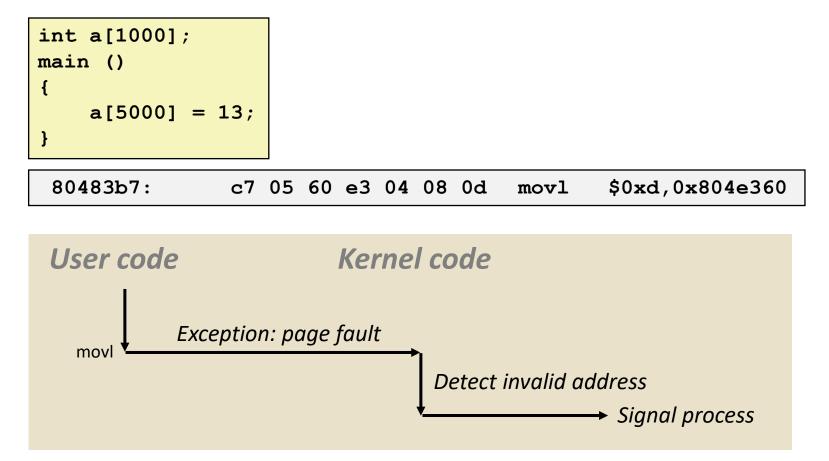
- User writes to memory location
- That portion (page) of user's memory is currently on disk

```
int a[1000];
main ()
{
    a[500] = 13;
}
```

80483b7:	c7 (05 10	9d 04	08 Od	movl	\$0xd,0x8049d10
----------	------	-------	-------	-------	------	-----------------



Fault Example: Invalid Memory Reference



- Sends SIGSEGV signal to user process
- User process exits with "segmentation fault"

Today

- Exceptional Control Flow
- Exceptions

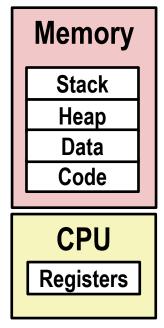
Processes

Process Control

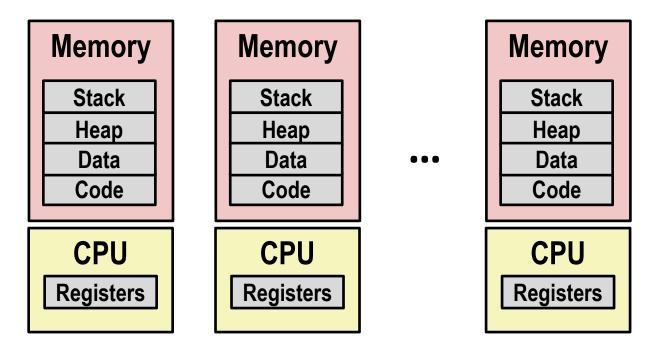
Processes

Definition: A *process* is an instance of a running program.

- One of the most profound ideas in computer science
- Not the same as "program" or "processor"
- Process provides each program with two key abstractions:
 - Logical control flow
 - Each program seems to have exclusive use of the CPU
 - Provided by kernel mechanism called *context switching*
 - Private address space
 - Each program seems to have exclusive use of main memory.
 - Provided by kernel mechanism called virtual memory



Multiprocessing: The Illusion



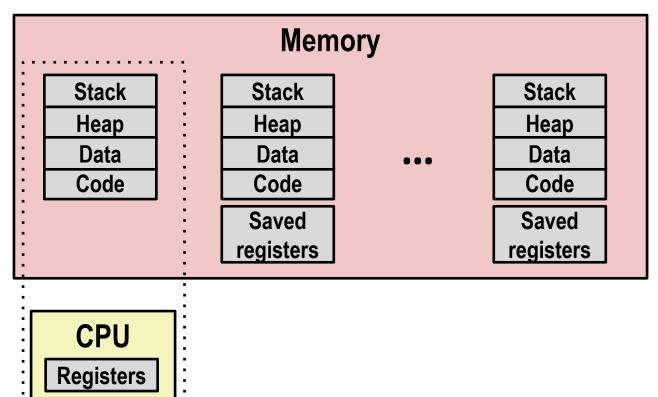
Computer runs many processes simultaneously

- Applications for one or more users
 - Web browsers, email clients, editors, ...
- Background tasks
 - Monitoring network & I/O devices

Multiprocessing Example

-											
000				X	xterr	n					
Processes: 123 total, 5 running, 9 stuck, 109 sleeping, 611 threads Load Avg: 1.03, 1.13, 1.14 CPU usage: 3.27% user, 5.15% sys, 91.56% idle SharedLibs: 576K resident, 0B data, 0B linkedit. MemRegions: 27958 total, 1127M resident, 35M private, 494M shared. PhysMem: 1039M wired, 1974M active, 1062M inactive, 4076M used, 18M free. VM: 280G vsize, 1091M framework vsize, 23075213(1) pageins, 5843367(0) pageouts. Networks: packets: 41046228/11G in, 66083096/77G out. Disks: 17874391/349G read, 12847373/594G written.									11:47:07		
PID COMMAND 99217- Microsoft 99051 usbmuxd 99006 iTunesHelp 84286 bash 84285 xterm 55939- Microsoft 54751 sleep 54739 launchdado 54737 top 54719 automounto 54701 ocspd	Of 0.0 0.0 0.0 0.0 Ex 0.3 0.0 d 0.0 6.5	TIME 02:28.34 00:04.10 00:01.23 00:00.11 00:00.83 21:58.97 00:00.00 00:02.53 00:00.02 00:00.05	4 3 2 1 1 10 1 2 1/1 7	#WQ 1 1 0 0 3 0 1 0 1	#PORT 202 47 55 20 32 360 17 33 30 53 61	#MREG 418 66 78 24 73 954 20 50 29 64 54	RPRVT 21M 436K 728K 224K 656K 16M 92K 488K 1416K 860K 1268K	RSHRD 24M 216K 3124K 732K 872K 65M 212K 216K 216K 216K 2644K	RSIZE 21M 480K 1124K 484K 692K 46M 360K 1736K 2124K 2184K 3132K	VPRVT 66M 60M 43M 17M 9728K 114M 9632K 48M 17M 53M 50M	VSIZE 763M 2422M 2378M 2382M 1057M 2370M 2370M 2378M 2409M 2378M 2413M 2426M
54661 Grab 54659 cookied 53818 mdworker	0.6 0.0 0.0	00:02.75 00:00.15 00:01.67	6 2	1 1 1	222+ 40 52	54 389+ 61 91	15M+ 3316K 7628K	2644K 26M+ 224K 7412K	40M+ 4088K 16M	501 75M+ 42M 48M	2556M+ 2411M 2438M
Running pr	ogra	m "to	p″ c				2464K 280K 52K	6148K 872K 216K	9976K 532K 88K	44M 9700K 18M	2434M 2382M 2392M
 System has 123 processes, 5 of which are active 											

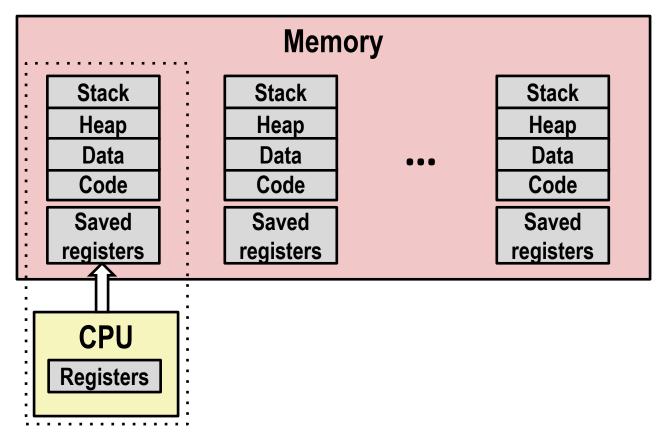
Identified by Process ID (PID)



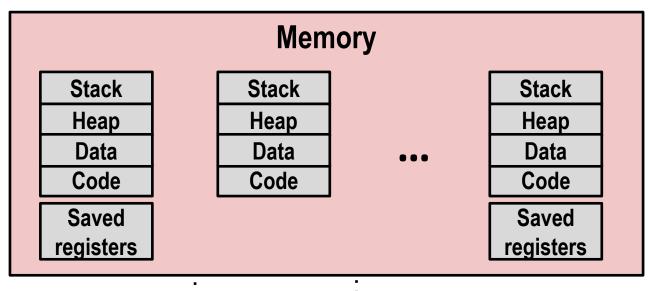
Single processor executes multiple processes concurrently

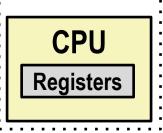
- Process executions interleaved (multitasking)
- Address spaces managed by virtual memory system (like last week)
- Register values for nonexecuting processes saved in memory

.

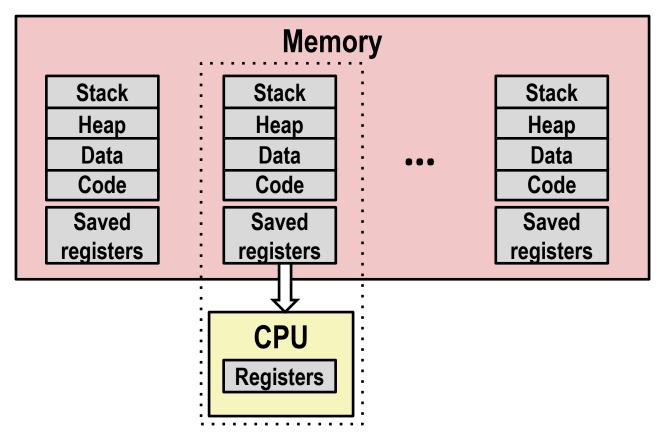


Save current registers in memory



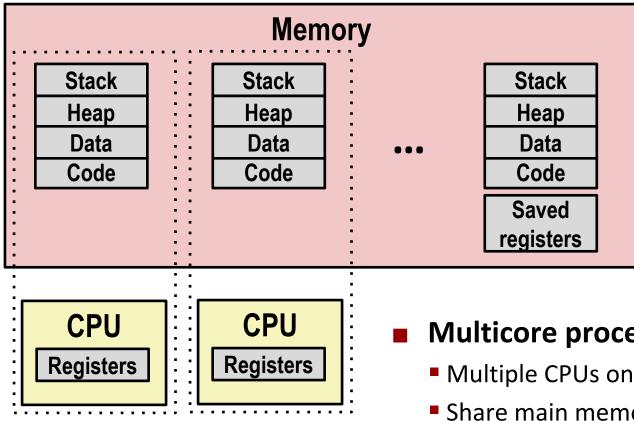


Schedule next process for execution



Load saved registers and switch address space (context switch)

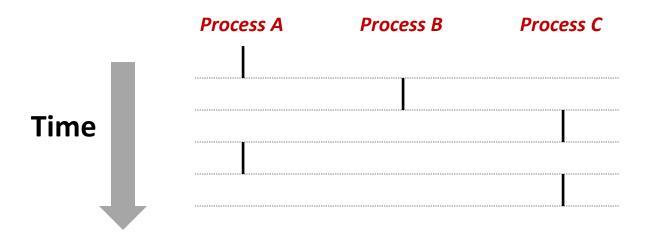
Multiprocessing: The (Modern) Reality



- **Multicore processors**
 - Multiple CPUs on single chip
 - Share main memory (and some caches)
 - Each can execute a separate process
 - Scheduling of processors onto cores done by kernel

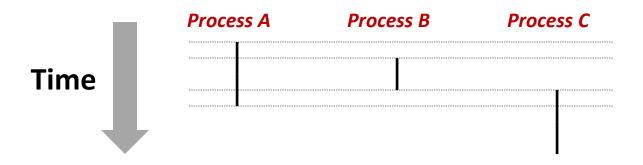
Concurrent Processes

- Each process is a logical control flow.
- Two processes run concurrently (are concurrent) if their flows overlap in time
- Otherwise, they are sequential
- **Examples (running on single core):**
 - Concurrent: A & B, A & C
 - Sequential: B & C



User View of Concurrent Processes

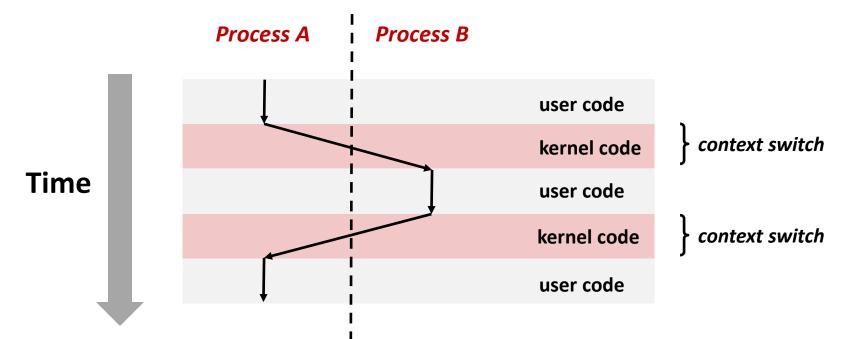
- Control flows for concurrent processes are physically disjoint in time
- However, we can think of concurrent processes as running in parallel with each other



Context Switching

Processes are managed by a shared chunk of memoryresident OS code called the *kernel*

- Important: the kernel is not a separate process, but rather runs as part of some existing process.
- Control flow passes from one process to another via a context switch



Bryant and O'Hallaron, Computer Systems: A Programmer's Perspective, Third Edition

Today

- Exceptional Control Flow
- Exceptions

Processes

Process Control

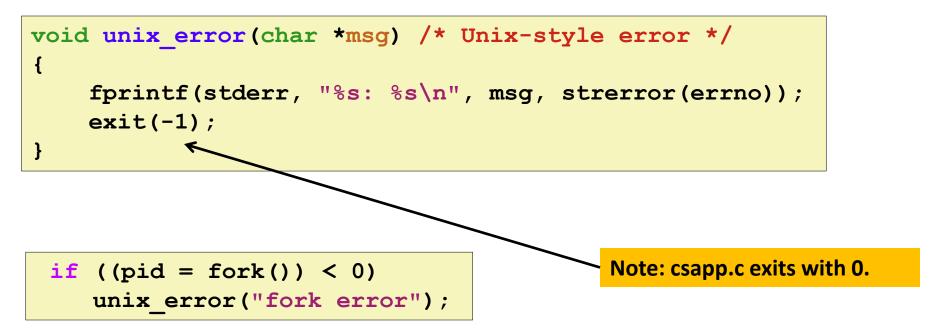
System Call Error Handling

- On error, Linux system-level functions typically return -1 and set global variable errno to indicate cause.
- Hard and fast rule:
 - You must check the return status of every system-level function
 - Only exception is the handful of functions that return void
- Example:

```
if ((pid = fork()) < 0) {
    fprintf(stderr, "fork error: %s\n", strerror(errno));
    exit(-1);
}</pre>
```

Error-reporting functions

Can simplify somewhat using an *error-reporting function*:



 But, must think about application. Not always appropriate to exit when something goes wrong

Error-handling Wrappers

We simplify the code we present to you even further by using Stevens¹-style error-handling wrappers:

```
pid_t Fork(void)
{
    pid_t pid;
    if ((pid = fork()) < 0)
        unix_error("Fork error");
        return pid;
}</pre>
```

pid = Fork();

NOT what you generally want to do in a real application

¹e.g., in "UNIX Network Programming: The sockets networking API" W. Richard Stevens

Obtaining Process IDs

pid_t getpid(void)

Returns PID of current process

pid_t getppid(void)

Returns PID of parent process

Creating and Terminating Processes

From a programmer's perspective, we can think of a process as being in one of three states

Running

 Process is either executing, or waiting to be executed and will eventually be *scheduled* (i.e., chosen to execute) by the kernel

Stopped

 Process execution is *suspended* and will not be scheduled until further notice (next lecture when we study signals)

Terminated

Process is stopped permanently

Terminating Processes

Process becomes terminated for one of three reasons:

- Receiving a signal whose default action is to terminate (next lecture)
- Returning from the main routine
- Calling the exit function

void exit(int status)

- Terminates with an *exit status* of **status**
- Convention: normal return status is 0, nonzero on error
- Another way to explicitly set the exit status is to return an integer value from the main routine

exit is called once but never returns

Creating Processes

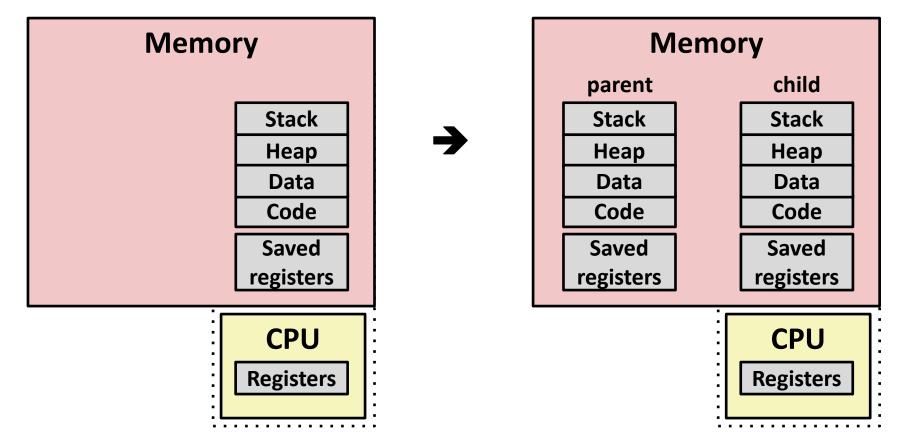
Parent process creates a new running child process by calling fork

int fork(void)

- Returns 0 to the child process, child's PID to parent process
- Child is *almost* identical to parent:
 - Child get an identical (but separate) copy of the parent's virtual address space.
 - Child gets identical copies of the parent's open file descriptors
 - Child has a different PID than the parent

fork is interesting (and often confusing) because it is called once but returns twice

Conceptual View of fork



Make complete copy of execution state

- Designate one as parent and one as child
- Resume execution of parent or child

The fork Function Revisited

VM and memory mapping explain how fork provides private address space for each process

To create virtual address for new process:

- Create exact copies of current mm_struct, vm_area_struct, and page tables
- Flag each page in both processes as read-only
- Flag each vm_area_struct in both processes as private COW
- On return, each process has exact copy of virtual memory

Subsequent writes create new pages using COW mechanism

fork Example

```
int main(int argc, char** argv)
{
   pid t pid;
    int x = 1;
    pid = Fork();
    if (pid == 0) { /* Child */
        printf("child : x=%d\n", ++x);
       return 0;
    }
    /* Parent */
    printf("parent: x=%d\n", --x);
    return 0;
}
                                 fork.c
```

- Call once, return twice
- Concurrent execution
 - Can't predict execution order of parent and child

linux> ./fork	linux> ./fork	linux> ./fork	linux> ./fork
parent: x=0	child : x=2	parent: x=0	parent: x=0
child : x=2	<pre>parent: x=0</pre>	child : x=2	child : x=2

Bryant and O'Hallaron, Computer Systems: A Programmer's Perspective, Third Edition

Making fork More Nondeterministic

Problem

- Linux scheduler does not create much run-to-run variance
- Hides potential race conditions in nondeterministic programs
 - e.g., does fork return to child first, or to parent?
- Solution
 - Create custom version of library routine that inserts random delays along different branches
 - e.g., for parent and child in fork
 - Use runtime interpositioning to have program use special version of library code

Variable delay fork

```
/* fork wrapper function */
pid t fork(void) {
    initialize();
    int parent delay = choose delay();
    int child delay = choose delay();
    pid t parent pid = getpid();
    pid t child pid or zero = real fork();
    if (child pid or zero > 0) {
        /* Parent */
        if (verbose) {
            printf(
"Fork. Child pid=%d, delay = %dms. Parent pid=%d, delay = %dms\n",
                   child pid or zero, child delay,
                   parent pid, parent delay);
            fflush(stdout);
        }
        ms sleep(parent delay);
    } else {
        /* Child */
        ms sleep(child delay);
    }
    return child pid or zero;
}
                                                             mvfork.c
```

fork Example

```
int main(int argc, char** argv)
{
   pid t pid;
    int x = 1;
    pid = Fork();
    if (pid == 0) { /* Child */
        printf("child : x=%d\n", ++x);
        return 0;
    }
    /* Parent */
    printf("parent: x=%d\n", --x);
    return 0;
}
```

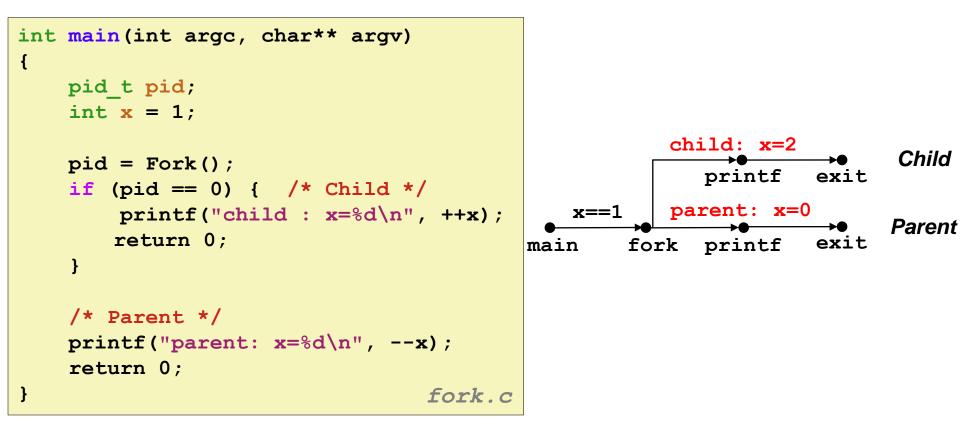
```
linux> ./fork
parent: x=0
child : x=2
```

- Call once, return twice
- Concurrent execution
 - Can't predict execution order of parent and child
- Duplicate but separate address space
 - x has a value of 1 when fork returns in parent and child
 - Subsequent changes to x are independent
 - Shared open files
 - stdout is the same in both parent and child

Modeling fork with Process Graphs

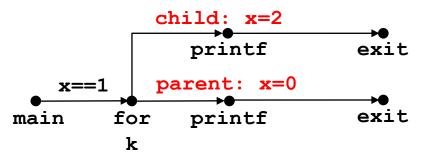
- A process graph is a useful tool for capturing the partial ordering of statements in a concurrent program:
 - Each vertex is the execution of a statement
 - a -> b means a happens before b
 - Edges can be labeled with current value of variables
 - printf vertices can be labeled with output
 - Each graph begins with a vertex with no inedges
- Any topological sort of the graph corresponds to a feasible total ordering.
 - Total ordering of vertices where all edges point from left to right

Process Graph Example

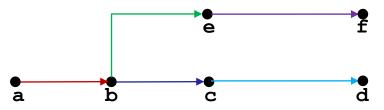


Interpreting Process Graphs

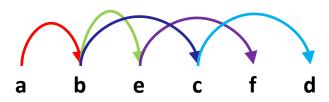
Original graph:



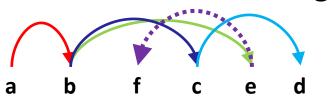
Relabled graph:



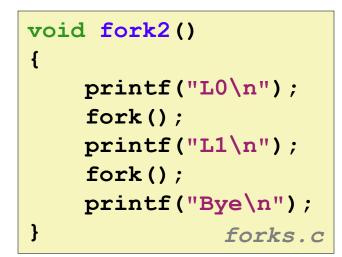
Feasible total ordering:

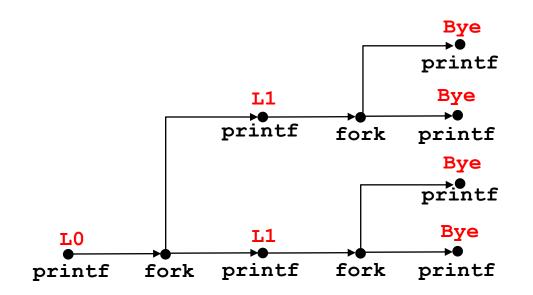


Infeasible total ordering:



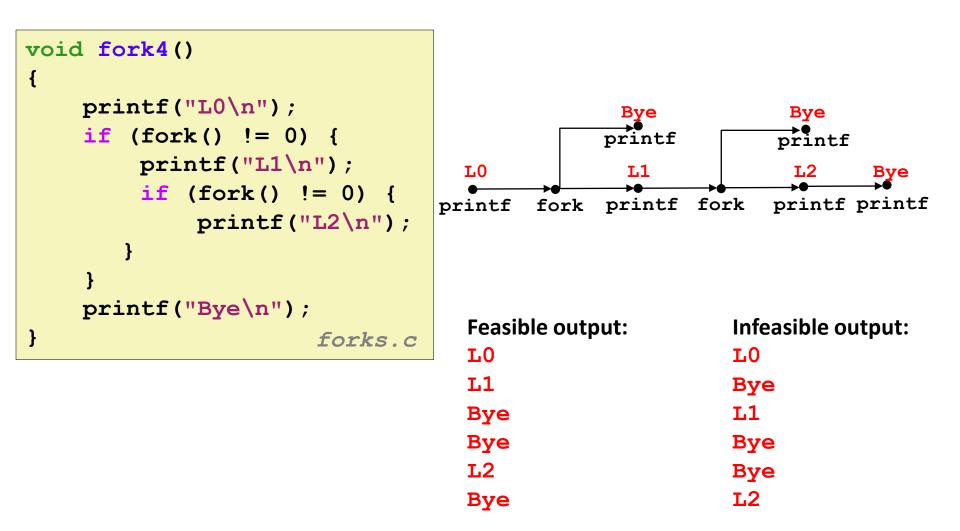
fork Example: Two Consecutive forks



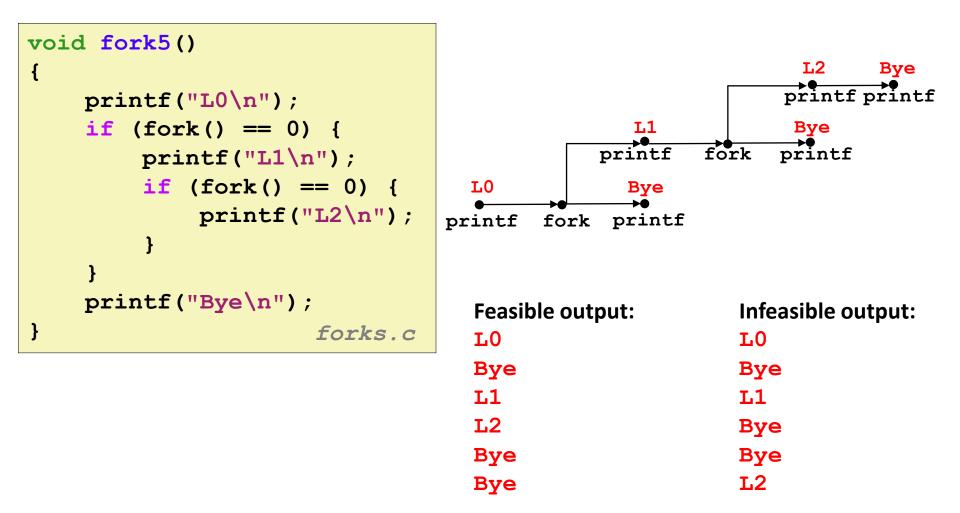


Feasible output:	Infeasible output:
L0	L0
L1	Вуе
Вуе	L1
Вуе	Вуе
L1	L1
Вуе	Вуе
Bye	Вуе

fork Example: Nested forks in Parent



fork Example: Nested forks in Children



Reaping Child Processes

Idea

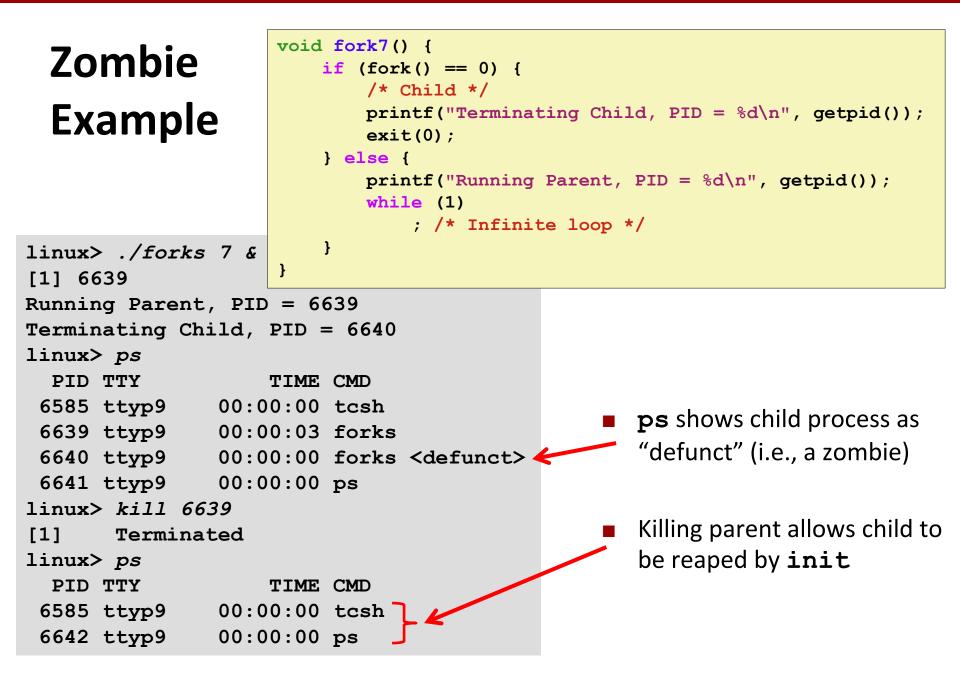
- When process terminates, it still consumes system resources
 - Examples: Exit status, various OS tables
- Called a "zombie"
 - Living corpse, half alive and half dead

Reaping

- Performed by parent on terminated child (using wait or waitpid)
- Parent is given exit status information
- Kernel then deletes zombie child process

What if parent doesn't reap?

- If any parent terminates without reaping a child, then the orphaned child should be reaped by init process (pid == 1)
 - Unless ppid == 1! Then need to reboot...
- So, only need explicit reaping in long-running processes
 - e.g., shells and servers



Nonterminating **Child Example**

```
void fork8()
    if (fork() == 0) {
        /* Child */
        printf("Running Child, PID = d\n",
               getpid());
        while (1)
            ; /* Infinite loop */
    } else {
        printf("Terminating Parent, PID = %d\n",
               getpid());
        exit(0);
    }
```

linux> ./forks 8 Terminating Parent, PID = 6675 Running Child, PID = 6676linux> ps PID TTY TIME CMD 6585 ttyp9 00:00:00 tcsh 6676 ttyp9 00:00:06 forks 6677 ttyp9 00:00:00 linux> kill 6676 🗲 linux> ps PID TTY TIME CMD 6585 ttyp9 00:00:00 tcsh 6678 ttyp9 00:00:00 ps

{

}

Child process still active even though parent has terminated

Must kill child explicitly, or else will keep running indefinitely

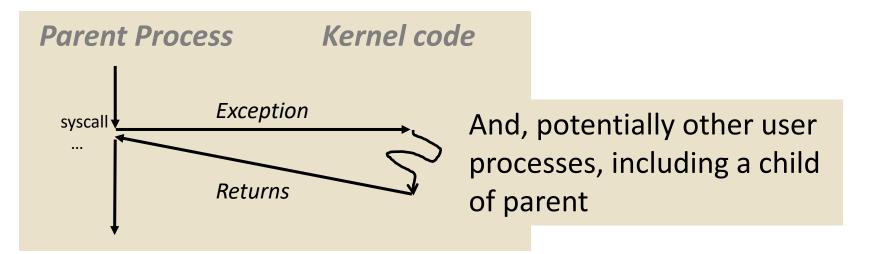
Bryant and O'Hallaron, Computer Systems: A Programmer's Perspective, Third Edition

wait: Synchronizing with Children

Parent reaps a child by calling the wait function

int wait(int *child_status)

- Suspends current process until one of its children terminates
- Implemented as syscall



wait: Synchronizing with Children

Parent reaps a child by calling the wait function

int wait(int *child_status)

- Suspends current process until one of its children terminates
- Return value is the pid of the child process that terminated
- If child_status != NULL, then the integer it points to will be set to a value that indicates reason the child terminated and the exit status:
 - Checked using macros defined in wait.h
 - WIFEXITED, WEXITSTATUS, WIFSIGNALED, WTERMSIG, WIFSTOPPED, WSTOPSIG, WIFCONTINUED
 - See textbook for details

wait: Synchronizing with Children

```
void fork9() {
    int child status;
                                                          HC
                                                                 exit
    if (fork() == 0) {
                                                       printf
        printf("HC: hello from child\n");
       exit(0);
                                                                         СТ
    } else {
                                                                        Bye
                                                          HP
        printf("HP: hello from parent\n");
        wait(&child status);
                                                   fork printf
                                                                wait printf
        printf("CT: child has terminated\n");
    }
    printf("Bye\n");
}
                                        forks.c
```

Feasible output(s):		
HC	HP	
HP	HC	
СТ	СТ	
Bye	Bye	

Infeasible output: HP CT Bye HC

Another wait Example

- If multiple children completed, will take in arbitrary order
- Can use macros WIFEXITED and WEXITSTATUS to get information about exit status

```
void fork10() {
   pid t pid[N];
    int i, child status;
    for (i = 0; i < N; i++)
        if ((pid[i] = fork()) == 0) {
            exit(100+i); /* Child */
    for (i = 0; i < N; i++) { /* Parent */</pre>
        pid t wpid = wait(&child status);
        if (WIFEXITED(child status))
            printf("Child %d terminated with exit status %d\n",
                   wpid, WEXITSTATUS(child status));
        else
            printf("Child %d terminate abnormally\n", wpid);
    }
}
                                                          forks.c
```

waitpid: Waiting for a Specific Process

- pid_t waitpid(pid_t pid, int *status, int options)
 - Suspends current process until specific process terminates
 - Various options (see textbook)

```
void fork11() {
   pid t pid[N];
    int i;
    int child status;
    for (i = 0; i < N; i++)
        if ((pid[i] = fork()) == 0)
            exit(100+i); /* Child */
    for (i = N-1; i \ge 0; i--) {
        pid t wpid = waitpid(pid[i], &child status, 0);
        if (WIFEXITED(child status))
            printf("Child %d terminated with exit status %d\n",
                   wpid, WEXITSTATUS(child status));
        else
            printf("Child %d terminate abnormally\n", wpid);
    }
                                                         forks.c
```

execve: Loading and Running Programs

- int execve(char *filename, char *argv[], char *envp[])
- Loads and runs in the current process:
 - Executable file filename
 - Can be object file or script file beginning with #!interpreter (e.g., #!/bin/bash)
 - ...with argument list argv
 - By convention argv[0]==filename
 - ...and environment variable list envp
 - "name=value" strings (e.g., USER=droh)
 - getenv, putenv, printenv

Overwrites code, data, and stack

Retains PID, open files and signal context

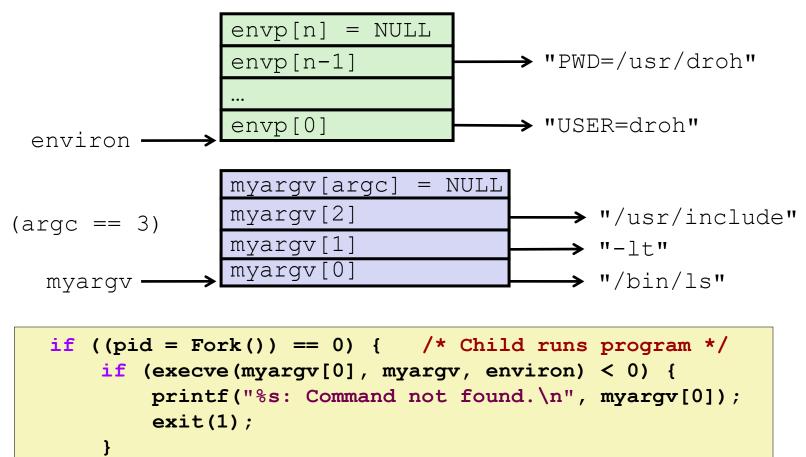
Called once and never returns

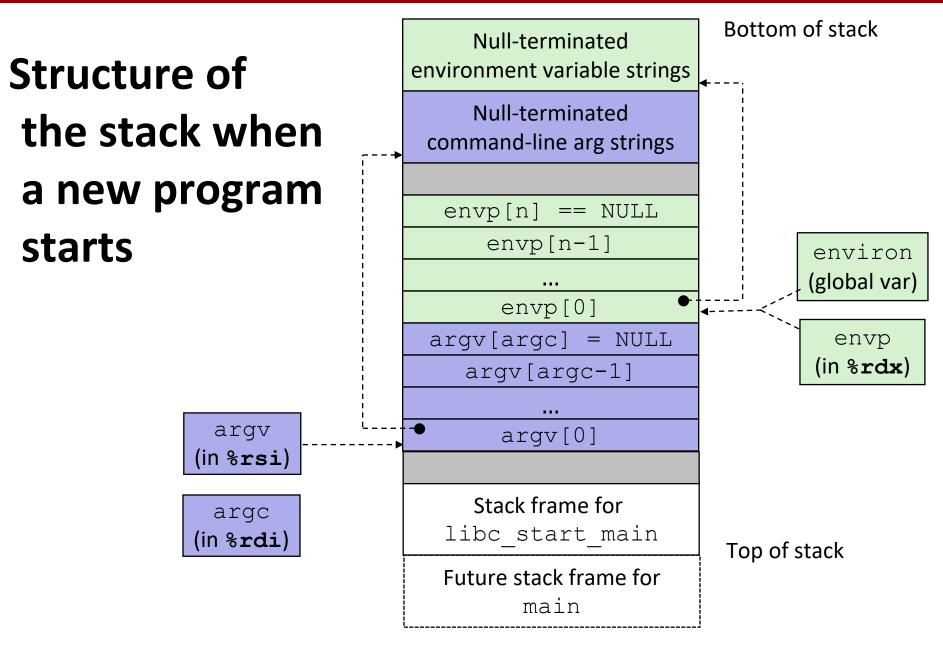
...except if there is an error

Bryant and O'Hallaron, Computer Systems: A Programmer's Perspective, Third Edition

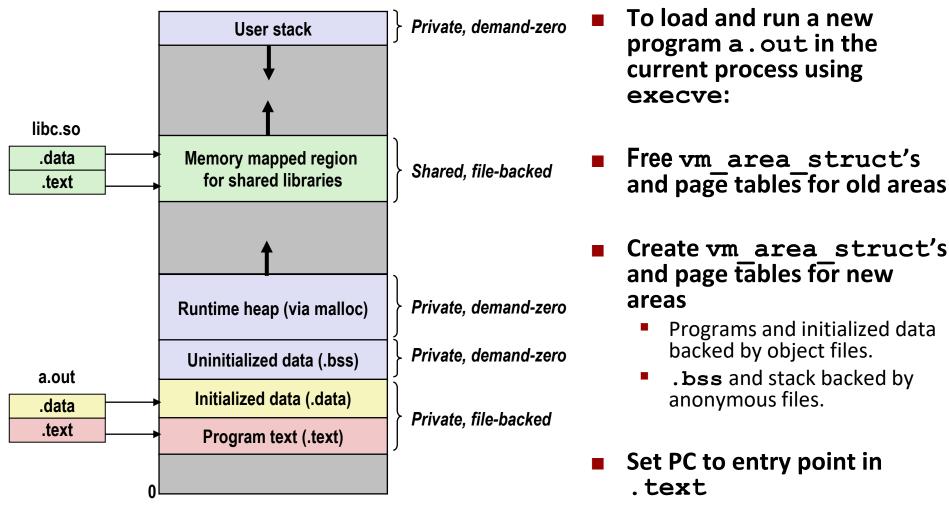
execve Example

Execute "/bin/ls -lt /usr/include" in child process using current environment:





The execve Function Revisited



 Linux will fault in code and data pages as needed.

Summary

Exceptions

- Events that require nonstandard control flow
- Generated externally (interrupts) or internally (traps and faults)

Processes

- At any given time, system has multiple active processes
- Only one can execute at a time on any single core
- Each process appears to have total control of processor + private memory space

Summary (cont.)

Spawning processes

- Call fork
- One call, two returns

Process completion

- Call exit
- One call, no return

Reaping and waiting for processes

Call wait or waitpid

Loading and running programs

- Call execve (or variant)
- One call, (normally) no return

Your Turn!

Let's say N = 3

What is the process graph? How many threads are spawned in total? Is the following sequence possible? c0 c1 p2 c2 c2 c1 c2 c2 p1 p0

```
void fork12() {
    pid t pid[N];
    int i, j, child status;
    int isChild = 0;
    for (i = 0; i < N; i++) {
        if ((pid[i] = fork()) == 0) {
            printf("c%d ", i);
            isChild = 1
        }
    }
    if(isChild)
        exit(0); /* Child */
    for (j = N-1; j >= 0; j--) { /* Parent */
        pid t wpid = wait(&child status);
       printf("p%d ", j);
    }
```