

CSC552 - Advanced UNIX Programming

Signals and Times

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Signals

- ▶ Interrupts
- ▶ Event *generates* signal
- ▶ Signal *delivered* to process
- ▶ Signal *pending*
- ▶ Lifetime of signal
- ▶ Process *catches* signal
- ▶ Execute *signal handler*
- ▶ *Signal mask*

/usr/include/sys/signal.h

POSIX Required Signals (page 257)

Signal	Description	default action
SIGABRT	process abort	implementation dependent
SIGALRM	alarm clock	abnormal termination
SIGBUS	access undefined part of memory object	implementation dependent
SIGCHLD	child terminated, stopped or continued	ignore
SIGCONT	execution continued if stopped	continue
SIGFPE	error in arithmetic operation as in division by zero	implementation dependent
SIGHUP	hang-up (death) on controlling terminal (process)	abnormal termination
SIGILL	invalid hardware instruction	implementation dependent
SIGINT	interactive attention signal (usually ctrl-C)	abnormal termination

SIGKILL	terminated (cannot be caught or ignored)	abnormal termination
SIGPIPE	write on a pipe with no readers	abnormal termination
SIGQUIT	interactive termination: core dump (usually ctrl-\)	implementation dependent
SIGSEGV	invalid memory reference	implementation dependent
SIGSTOP	execution stopped (cannot be caught or ignored)	stop
SIGTERM	termination	abnormal termination
SIGTSTP	terminal stop	stop
SIGTTIN	background process attempting to read	stop
SIGTTOU	background process attempting to write	stop
SIGURG	high bandwidth data available at a socket	ignore
SIGUSR1	user-defined signal 1	abnormal termination
SIGUSR2	user-defined signal 2	abnormal termination

Child Signals

- ▶ WIFSIGNALED(status)
- ▶ WTERMSIG(status)
- ▶ WIFSTOPPED(status)
- ▶ WSTOPSIG(status)
- ▶ WCOREDUMP(status)
- ▶ Example: processes/waitpid_ex.c

Signal Sets

- ▶ List of signals
- ▶ `sigset_t`
- ▶ `sigfillset`
- ▶ `sigemptyset`
- ▶ `sigaddset`
- ▶ `sigdelset`

Signal Handler

- ▶ Three options
 - Write own signal handler (function address)
 - Use default action (SIG_DFL)
 - Ignore signal (SIG_IGN)
- ▶ signal
- ▶ sigaction
 - sigaction structure
- ▶ sigprocmask

Miscellaneous System Calls

- ▶ kill
- ▶ raise
- ▶ alarm
- ▶ pause
- ▶ sleep

Processes and Signals

- ▶ SIGCHLD signal
- ▶ Process groups
 - Process group leader
 - Process group id (pgid)
 - getpgrp function
- ▶ Control terminal
 - Control process

Signal Examples

- ▶ signals/timeout.c
- ▶ signals/ignoreCtrlC.c
- ▶ signals/sigTalk.c

Functions and Signals

- ▶ Restart function
- ▶ Reentrant functions
- ▶ Handling errors

General Rules

- ▶ Restart library calls
- ▶ Use *async-signal safe* functions in signal handlers
- ▶ Analyze interactions in signal handler
 - Block signals
- ▶ Save and restore *errno*

Internals – Process Information

- ▶ Signal handler array
 - Address of signal handler
 - 1 – ignore signal
 - 0 – default action
- ▶ *Pending signal bitmap*
- ▶ Process group ID

Times

- ▶ *Epoch*
- ▶ Time structures
 - tm → /usr/include/iso/time_iso.h
 - timeval
 - timezone

Time Functions

- ▶ time
- ▶ ctime
- ▶ localtime
- ▶ gmtime
- ▶ asctime
- ▶ mktime
- ▶ difftime
- ▶ gettimeofday
- ▶ strftime