

Controlling Processes

lctseng / Liang-Chi Tseng



Program to Process

❑ Program is dead

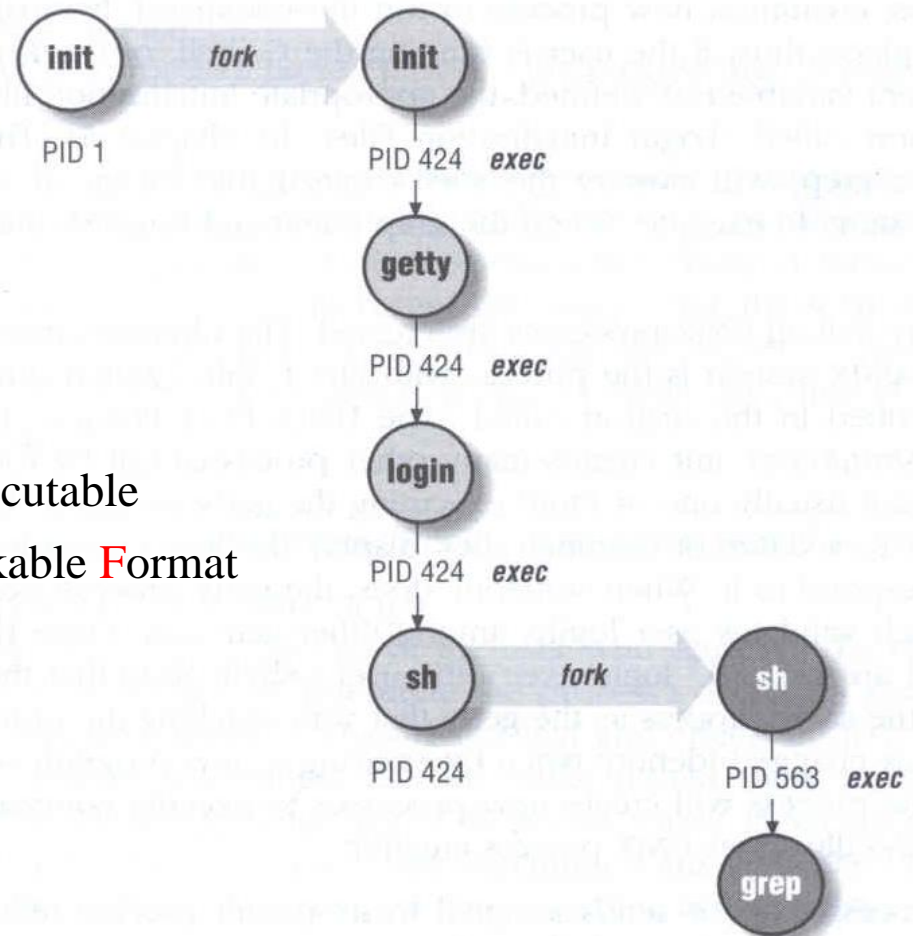
- Just lie on disk
- “grep” is a program
 - /usr/bin/grep
 - \$ file /usr/bin/grep
 - ELF 32-bit LSB executable
 - Executable and Linkable Format

❑ When you execute it

- It becomes a process

❑ Process is alive

- It resides in memory



Components of a Process

- ❑ An address space in memory
 - Code and data of this process
- ❑ A set of data structures within the kernel
 - Used to monitor, schedule, trace,, this process
 - Owner, Group (Credentials)
 - Current status
 - VM space
 - Execution priority (scheduling info)
 - Information of used resource
 - Resource limits
 - Syscall vector
 - Signal actions

Attributes of the Process

❑ PID, PPID

- Process ID and parent process ID

❑ UID, EUID

- User ID and Effective user ID

❑ GID, EGID

- Group ID and Effective group ID

❑ Niceness

- The suggested priority of this process

Attributes of the process – PID and PPID

❑ PID – process id

- Unique number assigned for each process in increasing order when they are created

❑ PPID – parent PID

- The PID of the parent from which it was cloned
- UNIX uses fork-and-exec model to create new process

```
1 #include <stdio.h>
2 #include <unistd.h>
3
4 int main(void)
5 {
6     int pid,i;
7
8     pid = fork();
9     if (pid == 0) {
10         for (i=0;i<12;i++) {
11             printf("I am a child process, my pid is %d, parent pid is %d\n",getpid(),getppid());
12             sleep(1);
13         }
14         exit(1);
15     }
16     else if (pid > 0) {
17         for (i=0;i<10;i++) {
18             printf(" I am a parent process, my pid is %d, parent pid is %d\n",getpid(),getppid());
19             sleep(1);
20         }
21     }
22     else if (pid < 0)
23         printf(" Sorry .....I can't fork my self\n");
24
25     return 0;
26 }
```

Process Lifecycle

❑ fork

- child has the same program context – `fork(2)`

❑ exec

- child use exec to change the program context – `execve(2)`

❑ exit

- child use `_exit` to tell kernel that it is ready to die and this death should be acknowledged by the child's parent – `_exit(2)`

❑ wait

- parent use wait to wait for child's death
- If parent died before child, this orphan process will have `init` as it's new parent – `wait(2)`

Attributes of the process – UID、GID、EUID and EGID

Important!!

□ UID, GID, EUID, EGID

- The effective uid and gid can be used to enable or restrict the additional permissions
- Effective uid will be set to
 - Real uid if setuid bit is off
 - The file owner's uid if setuid bit is on

Ex:

/etc/master.passwd is “root read-write only” and
/usr/bin/passwd is a “setuid root” program

```
sabsd [/etc] -lctseng- ls -al | grep passwd
-rw----- 1 root wheel 2946 Sep 24 00:26 master.passwd
-rw-r--r-- 1 root wheel 2706 Sep 24 00:26 passwd
sabsd [/usr/bin] -lctseng- ls -al /usr/bin/passwd
-r-sr-xr-x 2 root wheel 5860 Sep 17 15:19 passwd
```

Signal

- ❑ A way of telling a process something has happened
- ❑ Signals can be sent
 - among processes as a means of communication
 - by the terminal driver to kill, interrupt, or suspend process
 - <Ctrl-C> 、 <Ctrl-Z>
 - bg, fg
 - by the administrator to achieve various results
 - With **kill**
 - by the kernel when a process violate the rules
 - divide by zero
 - Illegal memory access

Signal –

Actions when receiving signal

- ❑ Depend on whether there is a designated handler routine for that signal
 1. If yes, the handler is called
 2. If no, the kernel takes some default action
- ❑ “Catching” the signal
 - Specify a handler routine for a signal within a program
- ❑ Two ways to prevent signals from arriving
 1. Ignored
 - Just discard it and there is no effect to process
 2. Blocked
 - Queue for delivery until unblocked
 - The handler for a newly unblocked signal is called only once



Signal –

FreeBSD signals

❑ `signal(3)` or see `/usr/include/sys/signal.h`

FreeBSD

#	Name	Description	Default	Catch	Block	Dump core
1	SIGHUP	Hangup	Terminate	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2	SIGINT	Interrupt (^C)	Terminate	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3	SIGQUIT	Quit	Terminate	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
9	SIGKILL	Kill	Terminate	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
10	SIGBUS	Bus error	Terminate	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
11	SIGSEGV	Segmentation fault	Terminate	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
15	SIGTERM	Soft. termination	Terminate	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
17	SIGSTOP	Stop	Stop	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
18	SIGTSTP	Stop from tty (^Z)	Stop	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
19	SIGCONT	Continue after stop	Ignore	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Signal –

Send signals: kill

- ❑ `kill(1)` – terminate or signal a process
- ❑ `% kill [-signal] pid`
 - Ex:
 - First, find out the pid you want to kill
(`ps`, `top`, `sockstat`, `lsof`...)
 - `$ kill -l` (list all available signals)
 - `$ kill 49222`
 - `$ kill -TERM 49222`
 - `$ kill -15 49222`
 - `killall(1)`
 - kill processes by name
 - `$ killall tcsh`
 - `$ killall -u lctseng`



Niceness

- ❑ How kindly of you when contending CPU time
 - High nice value → low priority
 - Related to CPU time quantum
- ❑ Inherent Property
 - A newly created process inherits the nice value of its parent
 - Prevent processes with low priority from bearing high-priority children
- ❑ Root has complete freedom in setting nice value
 - Use “nice” to start a high-priority shell to beat berserk process



Niceness – nice and renice

❑ nice format

- OS nice : \$ /usr/bin/nice [range] utility [argument]
- csh nice(built-in) : \$ nice [range] utility [argument]
 - \$ nice +10 ps -l

❑ renice format

- % renice [prio | -n incr] [-p pid] [-g gid] [-u user]
 - % renice 15 -u lctseng

System	Prio. Range	OS nice	csh nice	renice
FreeBSD	-20 ~ 20	-incr -n incr	+prio -prio	prio -n incr
Red Hat	-20 ~ 20	-incr -n incr	+prio -prio	prio
Solaris	0 ~ 39	-incr -n incr	+incr -incr	prio -n incr
SunOS	-20 ~ 19	-incr	+prio -prio	prio

Niceness

- ❑ Example relation between niceness and CPU time quantum

Table 7-2. Typical priority values for a conventional process

Description	Static priority	Nice value	Base time quantum	Interactivedelta	Sleep time threshold
Highest static priority	100	-20	800 ms	-3	299 ms
High static priority	110	-10	600 ms	-1	499 ms
Default static priority	120	0	100 ms	+2	799 ms
Low static priority	130	+10	50 ms	+4	999 ms
Lowest static priority	139	+19	5 ms	+6	1199 ms

Cited from NCTU-OSDI slides

cpuset command

- ❑ A system may have more than one CPU core
- ❑ How many CPU resource a process can use
- ❑ `cpuset(1)`

cpuset command

- ❑ To see how many CPUs on your machine

- `cpuset -g`

```
10:55am lctseng@bsd3 [~] [W0] >cpuset -g
pid -1 mask: 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15
```

- ❑ Run commands with less CPUs

- `cpuset -l cpus cmd`
- `cpuset -l 8-15 ./hw1.out`

- ❑ Change number of CPUs for current processes

- `cpuset -l cpus -p pid`
- `cpuset -l 8-15 -p 5566`

- ❑ Combine with nice

- `cpuset -l 8-15 /usr/bin/nice -n 20 cmd`

Process States

❑ man “ps” and see “state” keyword

State	Meaning
I	Idle (20+ second)
R	Runnable
S	Sleeping (~20 second)
T	Stopped
Z	Zombie
D	in Disk

ps command (BSD、Linux)

❑ ps

```
sabsd [/home/lctseng] -lctseng- ps
  PID  TT  STAT      TIME COMMAND
52363  p0  Ss       0:00.01 -tcsh (tcsh)
52369  p0  R+       0:00.00 ps
```

❑ ps aux

```
sabsd [/home/lctseng] -lctseng- ps aux
USER      PID %CPU %MEM    VSZ   RSS  TT  STAT STARTED      TIME COMMAND
lctseng   52362  0.0  0.4  6536  3852  ??  S    5:02PM    0:00.01 sshd: lctseng@tty0 (sshd)
root      52380  0.0  0.3  3756  3224  ??  Ss   5:08PM    0:00.00 sendmail: accepting connections (s
smmsp     52384  0.0  0.3  3644  2968  ??  Ss   5:08PM    0:00.00 sendmail: Queue runner@00:30:00 fo
```

❑ ps auxww

```
sabsd [/home/lctseng] -lctseng- ps auxww
USER      PID %CPU %MEM    VSZ   RSS  TT  STAT STARTED      TIME COMMAND
lctseng   52362  0.0  0.4  6536  3864  ??  S    5:02PM    0:00.02 sshd: lctseng@tty0 (sshd)
root      52380  0.0  0.3  3756  3224  ??  Ss   5:08PM    0:00.00 sendmail: accepting connections (sendmail)
smmsp     52384  0.0  0.3  3644  2968  ??  Ss   5:08PM    0:00.00 sendmail: Queue runner@00:30:00 for
/var/spool/clientmqueue (sendmail)
```

ps command –

Explanation of ps –aux (BSD、Linux)

Field	Contents
USER	Username of the process's owner
PID	Process ID
%CPU	Percentage of the CPU this process is using
%MEM	Percentage of real memory this process is using
VSZ	Virtual size of the process, in kilobytes
RSS	Resident set size (number of 1K pages in memory)
TT	Control terminal ID
STAT	Current process status: R = Runnable D = In disk (or short-term) wait I = Sleeping (> 20 sec) S = Sleeping (< 20 sec) T = Stopped Z = Zombie Additional Flags: > = Process has higher than normal priority N = Process has lower than normal priority < = Process is exceeding soft limit on memory use A = Process has requested random page replacement S = Process has asked for FIFO page replacement V = Process is suspended during a vfork E = Process is trying to exit L = Some pages are locked in core X = Process is being traced or debugged s = Process is a session leader (head of control terminal) W = Process is swapped out + = Process is in the foreground of its control terminal
STARTED	Time the process was started
TIME	CPU time the process has consumed
COMMAND	Command name and arguments ^a

ps command (BSD、Linux)

❑ ps -j

Use these options with shell scripts

```
sabsd [/home/lctseng] -lctseng- ps -j
USER      PID  PPID  PGID   SID  JOBC  STAT  TT      TIME  COMMAND
lctseng  52363 52362 52363 52363   0  Ss   p0      0:00.03 -tcsh (tcsh)
lctseng  52458 52363 52458 52363   1  R+   p0      0:00.00 ps -j
```

❑ ps -o

```
sabsd [/home/lctseng] -lctseng- ps -o uid,pid,ppid,%cpu,%mem,command
UID      PID  PPID  %CPU  %MEM  COMMAND
1001  52363 52362  0.0   0.3  -tcsh (tcsh)
1001  52462 52363  0.0   0.1  ps -o uid,pid,ppid,%cpu,%mem,command
```

❑ ps -L

```
sabsd [/home/lctseng] -lctseng- ps -L
%cpu %mem aflag acflg args blocked caught comm command cpu cputime
emuletime f flags ignored inblk inblock jid jobc ktrace label lim
lockname login logname lstart lwp majflt minflt msgrcv msgsnd mwchan ni
nice nivcsw nlwp nsignals nsigs nswap nvcsw nwchan oublk oublock paddr
pagein pcpu pending pgid pid pmem ppid pri re rgid rgroup rss rtprio ruid
ruser sid sig sigcatch sigignore sigmask sl start stat state svgid svuid
tdev time tpgid tsid tsiz tt tty ucomm uid upr uprocp user usrpri vsize
vsz wchan xstat
```

top command

```
last pid: 52477; load averages: 0.01, 0.05, 0.02 up 0+19:38:37 17:23:38
29 processes: 1 running, 28 sleeping
CPU states: 0.4% user, 0.0% nice, 0.0% system, 0.0% interrupt, 99.6% idle
Mem: 19M Active, 308M Inact, 113M Wired, 88K Cache, 111M Buf, 556M Free
Swap: 1024M Total, 1024M Free
```

PID	USERNAME	THR	PRI	NICE	SIZE	RES	STATE	TIME	WCPU	COMMAND
697	root	1	76	0	3784K	2728K	select	0:02	0.00%	sshd
565	root	1	76	0	1468K	1068K	select	0:00	0.00%	syslogd
704	root	1	8	0	1484K	1168K	nanslp	0:00	0.00%	cron

❑ Various usage

- top -q run top and renice it to -20
- top -u don't map uid to username
- top -U*username* show process owned by user

❑ Interactive command

- o change display order (cpu, res, size, time)
- u show only processes owned by user (“+” means all)
- m show IO information
- ? Listing available options

htop command

```

1 [ |           0.7%]   Tasks: 41, 0 thr; 1 running
2 [           0.0%]   Load average: 0.12 0.12 0.11
3 [           0.0%]   Uptime: 5 days, 07:53:08
4 [           0.0%]
Mem[|||||]      414/4071MB
Swp[           0/1023MB]

PID USER      PRI  NI  VIRT   RES   SHR  S  CPU% MEM%   TIME+  Command
822 root        144   0 14512  2076    0  S  0.0  0.0  0:00.00  /usr/libexec/getty Pc ttyv3
821 root        144   0 14512  2076    0  S  0.0  0.0  0:00.00  /usr/libexec/getty Pc ttyv2
820 root        144   0 14512  2076    0  S  0.0  0.0  0:00.00  /usr/libexec/getty Pc ttyv1
819 root        145   0 14512  2076    0  S  0.0  0.0  0:00.00  /usr/libexec/getty Pc ttyv0
817 root        120   0 14532  2092    0  S  0.0  0.1  0:00.42  /usr/sbin/automountd
809 root        120   0 14532  2108    0  S  0.0  0.1  0:22.28  /usr/sbin/autounmountd
804 root        120   0 54436 15108    0  S  0.0  0.4  0:54.36  /usr/sbin/bsnmpd -p /var/run/snmpd.pid
789 root        120   0 18736  2864    0  S  0.0  0.1  0:06.17  /usr/sbin/inetd -wW -C 60
763 root        120   0 16616  2336    0  S  0.0  0.1  0:03.28  /usr/sbin/cron -s
759 root        120   0 61224  7024    0  S  0.0  0.2  0:00.23  /usr/sbin/sshd
88530 root        137   0 86492 10996    0  S  0.0  0.3  0:00.14  | sshd: chchang2222 [priv]
      |   | sshd: chchang2222@pts/1
      |   |   | /bin/bash -l
88536 chchang22  120   0 17848  4960    0  S  0.0  0.1  0:00.14  | sshd: tawei [priv]
42469 root        120   0 90588 11088    0  S  0.0  0.3  0:01.09  |

lp  F2Setup F3Search F4Filter F5Sorted F6Collap F7Nice - F8Nice + F9Kill F10Quit

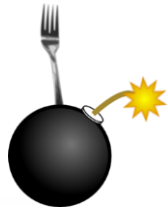
```

- ❑ A better top
 - Install it from sysutils/htop

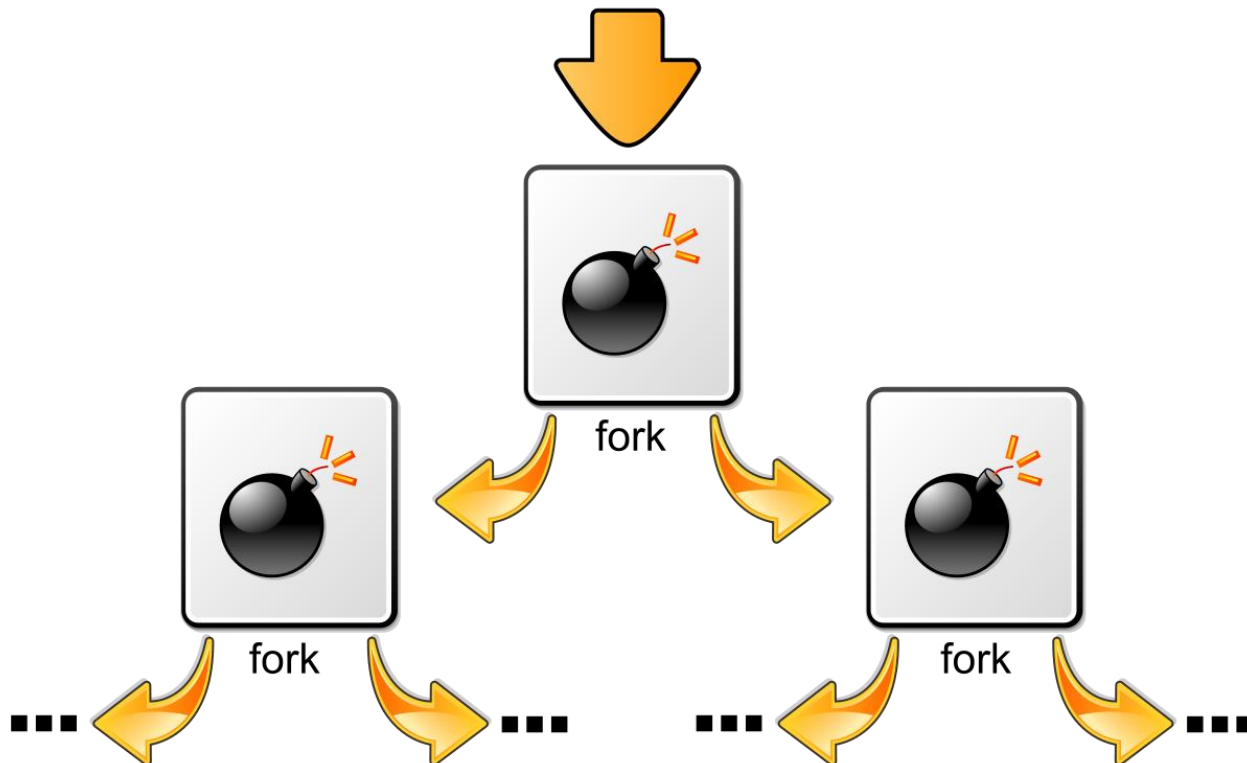
Runaway process

- ❑ Processes that use up excessive system resource or just go berserk
 - kill -TERM for unknown process
 - renice it to a higher nice value for reasonable process

Fork Bomb



- ❑ A process forking out of control



Cited from [wiki](#)

Fork Bomb

- ❑ A process forking out of control

```

last pid: 14928; load averages: 53.07, 53.10, 53.08
210 processes: 55 running, 154 sleeping, 1 zombie
CPU: 0.0% user, 49.7% nice, 0.1% system, 0.0% interrupt, 50.1% idle
Mem: 38M Active, 760M Inact, 2904M Wired, 40K Cache, 255M Buf, 4220M Free
ARC: 2047M Total, 572M MFU, 897M MRU, 16K Anon, 16M Header, 562M Other
Swap: 4096M Total, 4096M Free

```

PID	USERNAME	THR	PRI	NICE	SIZE	RES	STATE	C	TIME	WCPU	COMMAND
4224		1	97	20	19760K	2924K	RUN	11	65:04	16.70%	fork1
4241		1	96	20	19760K	2924K	RUN	8	64:37	16.06%	fork1
4220		1	96	20	19760K	2924K	RUN	8	65:05	15.97%	fork1
6332		1	96	20	19760K	2924K	RUN	10	105:20	15.87%	fork1
4087		1	96	20	19760K	2924K	RUN	11	66:08	15.87%	fork1
4054		1	96	20	19760K	2924K	RUN	15	67:43	15.67%	fork1
4086		1	96	20	19760K	2924K	RUN	10	66:30	15.67%	fork1
6329		1	96	20	19760K	2924K	RUN	13	105:17	15.58%	fork1
4090		1	96	20	19760K	2924K	RUN	12	66:28	15.58%	fork1
4244		1	96	20	19760K	2924K	RUN	13	64:51	15.58%	fork1
4001		1	96	20	19760K	2924K	RUN	13	68:11	15.48%	fork1
4084		1	96	20	19760K	2924K	CPU13	13	66:24	15.48%	fork1
4242		1	96	20	19760K	2924K	RUN	13	65:04	15.48%	fork1
4225		1	96	20	19760K	2924K	RUN	9	65:00	15.48%	fork1
4221		1	96	20	19760K	2924K	RUN	11	64:52	15.48%	fork1
4243		1	96	20	19760K	2924K	RUN	8	64:48	15.48%	fork1

Fork Bomb –

How to create a fork bomb

- C/C++

```
#include <unistd.h>

int main()
{
    while(1)
        fork();
    return 0;
}
```

- Perl

```
fork while fork
```

- Bash (Shell script)

```
:(){ :|:& };;:
```

```
# 定義函式
forkbomb()
{
    # 使用pipe呼叫兩次，並丟到背景執行
    forkbomb|forkbomb &
}
;
# 執行函式，引爆fork bomb
forkbomb
```

- Windows

```
%0|%0
```

DON'T DO THAT!!!!

Fork Bomb

- ❑ How to deal with fork bomb
 - Just kill all of them
 - **\$ killall -KILL *bombName***

- ❑ When you have no more resource to fork you shell
 - **\$ exec killall -KILL *bombName***
 - That shell will become ‘killall’, and never goes back

- ❑ ‘killall’ isn’t an atomic command
 - More bombs may be created when killing them
 - Run multiple ‘killall’

Fork Bomb

- ❑ Prevent fork bomb
 - Limit the maximum number of processes for a specific user
- ❑ /etc/login.conf

```
43      :maxproc-cur=256:\n44      :maxproc-max=512:\
```