CS631 - Advanced Programming in the UNIX Environment

Advanced I/O / Encryption in a Nutshell

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A central logging facility

Let's take a look at /var/log...
A central logging facility

There are three ways to generate log messages:

- via the kernel routine `log(9)`
- via the userland routine `syslog(3)`
- via UDP messages to port 514
A central logging facility
syslog(3)

```c
#include <syslog.h>
void openlog(const char *ident, int logopt, int facility);
void syslog(int priority, const char *message, ...);
```

`openlog(3)` allows us to set specific options when logging:
- prepend `ident` to each message
- specify logging options (`LOG_CONS` | `LOG_NDELAY` | `LOG_PERRO` | `LOG_PID`)
- specify a `facility` (such as `LOG_DAEMON`, `LOG_MAIL` etc.)

`syslog(3)` writes a message to the system message logger, tagged with `priority`.

A `priority` is a combination of a `facility` (as above) and a `level` (such as `LOG_DEBUG`, `LOG_WARNING` or `LOG_EMERG`).
Nonblocking I/O

Recall from our lecture on signals that certain system calls can block forever:

- `read(2)` from a particular file, if data isn’t present (pipes, terminals, network devices)
- `write(2)` to the same kind of file
- `open(2)` of a particular file until a specific condition occurs
- `read(2)` and `write(2)` of files that have mandatory locking enabled
- `certain ioctl(2)`
- `some IPC functions (such as sendto(2) or recv(2))`

See `eintr.c` from that lecture.
Nonblocking I/O

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- `some IPC functions (such as sendto(2) or recv(2))`

Nonblocking I/O lets us issue an I/O operation and not have it block forever. If the operation cannot be completed, return is made immediately with an error noting that the operation would have blocked (`EWOULDBLOCK` or `EAGAIN`).
Nonblocking I/O

Ways to specify nonblocking mode:

1. **pass** `O_NONBLOCK` to `open(2)`:

   ```c
   open(path, O_RDONLY|O_NONBLOCK);
   ```

2. **set** `O_NONBLOCK` via `fcntl(2)`:

   ```c
   flags = fcntl(fd, F_GETFL, 0);
   fcntl(fd, F_SETFL, flags|O_NONBLOCK);
   ```
Nonblocking I/O

```bash
$ cc -Wall nonblock.c -o block
$ cc -DNONBLOCK -Wall nonblock.c -o nonblock
$ ./nonblock >/dev/null
wrote 100000 bytes
[...]
$ ./block | ( sleep 3; cat >/dev/null )
[...]
$ ./nonblock | ( sleep 3; cat >/dev/null )
[...]
$ ( ./nonblock | cat >/dev/null ) 2>&1 | more
[...]
$ nc -l 8080 >/dev/null &

$ ./nonblock | nc hostname 8080
[...]
```
Resource Locking

Ways we have learned so far to ensure only one process has exclusive access to a resource:

- open file using `O_CREAT`|`O_EXCL`, then immediately `unlink(2)` it
- create a “lockfile” – if file exists, somebody else is using the resource
- use of a semaphore

What are some problems with each of these?
Advisory Locking

```
#include <fcntl.h>
int flock(int fd, int operation);
```

- Applies or removes an advisory lock on the file associated with the file descriptor `fd`.
- `operation` can be `LOCK_NB` and any one of:
  - `LOCK_SH`
  - `LOCK_EX`
  - `LOCK_UN`
- Locks entire file.
- See `flockfile(3)` for locking stdio streams.
Advisory Locking

$ cc -Wall flock.c
1$ ./a.out
Shared lock established - sleeping for 10 seconds.
[...]
Giving up all locks.

2$ ./a.out
Shared lock established - sleeping for 10 seconds.
Now trying to get an exclusive lock.
Unable to get an exclusive lock.
[...]
Exclusive lock established.

1$ ./a.out
[blocks until the other process terminates]
Advisory “Record” Locking

Record locking is done using `fcntl(2)`, using one of `F_GETLK`, `F_SETLK` or `F_SETLKW` and passing a

```
struct flock {
    short l_type; /* F_RDLCK, F_WRLCK, or F_UNLCK */
    off_t l_start; /* offset in bytes from l_whence */
    short l_whence; /* SEEK_SET, SEEK_CUR, or SEEK_END */
    off_t l_len; /* length, in bytes; 0 means "lock to EOF" */
    pid_t l_pid; /* returned by F_GETLK */
}
```

Lock types are:

- **F_RDLCK** – Non-exclusive (read) lock; fails if write lock exists.
- **F_WRLCK** – Exclusive (write) lock; fails if any lock exists.
- **F_UNLCK** – Releases our lock on specified range.
Advisory “Record” locking

```c
#include <unistd.h>

int lockf(int fd, int value, off_t size);
```

Returns: 0 on success, -1 on error

`value` can be:

- F_ULOCK – unlock locked sections
- F_LOCK – lock a section for exclusive use
- F_TLOCK – test and lock a section for exclusive use
- F_TEST – test a section for locks by other processes

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Region currently has</th>
<th>Request for</th>
<th>read lock</th>
<th>write lock</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>no locks</td>
<td>OK</td>
<td>OK</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>one or more read locks</td>
<td>OK</td>
<td>denied</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>one write lock</td>
<td>denied</td>
<td>denied</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Advisory “Record” locking

Locks are:
- not inherited across `fork(2)`
- inherited across `exec(2)`
- released upon `exec(2)` if close-on-exec is set
- released if a process terminates
- released if a filedescriptor is closed (!)
Advisory “Record” locking

Locks are associated with a *file and process pair*, not with a *filedescriptor*!
Mandatory locking

- not implemented on all UNIX flavors
  - chmod g+s,g-x file
- possible to be circumvented:

  $ mandatory-lock /tmp/file &
  $ echo foo > /tmp/file2
  $ rm /tmp/file
  $ mv /tmp/file2 /tmp/file
Asynchronous I/O

- Semi-async I/O via `select(2)/poll(2)`
- System V derived async I/O
  - limited to STREAMS
  - enabled via `ioctl(2)`
  - uses SIGPOLL
- BSD derived async I/O
  - limited to terminals and networks
  - enabled via `fcntl(2)` (`O_ASYNC, F_SETOWN`)
  - uses SIGIO and SIGURG

Mentioned here for completeness’s sake only.

See `aio(7)` for an example of POSIX AIO with parallels to e.g., POSIX message queues.
#include <sys/types.h>
#include <sys/mman.h>

void *mmap(void *addr, size_t len, int prot, int flags, int fd, off_t offset);

Returns: pointer to mapped region if OK

Protection specified for a region:
- PROT_READ – region can be read
- PROT_WRITE – region can be written
- PROT_EXEC – region can be executed
- PROT_NONE – region can not be accessed

flag needs to be one of
- MAP_SHARED
- MAP_PRIVATE
- MAP_COPY

which may be OR’d with other flags (see mmap(2) for details).
Memory Mapped I/O
## Memory Mapped I/O

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Operation</th>
<th>Linux 2.4.22 (Intel x86)</th>
<th>Solaris 9 (SPARC)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>User</td>
<td>System</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>read/write</td>
<td>0.04</td>
<td>1.02</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>mmap/memcpy</td>
<td>0.64</td>
<td>1.31</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Exercise: write a program that benchmarks this performance and run it on the systems you have access to.
Memory Mapped I/O

http://cvsweb.netbsd.org/bsdweb.cgi/src/bin/cp/utils.c?rev=HEAD
Cryptography can provide “security” in the areas of:

- **Authenticity**
  - *Is the party I’m talking to actually who I think it is?*

- **Accuracy or Integrity**
  - *Is the message I received in fact what was sent?*

- **Secrecy or Confidentiality**
  - *Did/could anybody else see (parts of) the message?*
How does encryption work?

*Secrecy:* Make sure that the data can only be read by those intended.
How does encryption work?

**Secrecy**: Make sure that the data can only be read by those intended.
- Alice and Bob agree on a way to transform data
- transformed data is sent over insecure channel
- Alice and Bob are able to get data out of the transformation
How does encryption work?

Different approaches:

- public key cryptography
- secret key cryptography
How does encryption work?

Different approaches:

- **public key cryptography** (example: RSA, your ssh keys)
  - Alice has a private and a public key
  - data encrypted with her private key can only be decrypted by her public key and vice versa
  - public key can be shared with Bob
How does encryption work?

Different approaches:

- Secret key cryptography (example: AES)
  - Alice and Bob share a secret key
  - For authentication purposes, Alice may prove to Bob that she knows the secret key
  - Any data encrypted with this key can also be decrypted using the same key
Cipher Modes

Encryption entails transformation of input data ("plain" or "clear" text) into encrypted output data ("ciphertext"). Input data is generally transformed in one of two ways:

*Stream Cipher*:
- Example: RC4, ChaCha
- each bit on plaintext is combined with a pseudo-random cipher digit stream (or *keystream*)

*Block Cipher*:
- Example: AES, Blowfish, IDEA
- fixed-length blocks of plaintext are transformed into same-sized blocks of ciphertext
- may require padding
Electronic Codebook Mode

Electronic Codebook (ECB) mode encryption

Electronic Codebook (ECB) mode decryption
Electronic Codebook Mode

Original image

Encrypted using ECB mode
Cipher Block Chaining

Cipher Block Chaining (CBC) mode encryption

Cipher Block Chaining (CBC) mode decryption
Random String generation

Random numbers can be generated using /dev/random, /dev/urandom, rand(3), random(3), BN_rand(3) etc.

Map numbers to printable characters (for use as a salt, for example):

```c
static const unsigned char itoa64[] =
  "./0123456789ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZabcdefghijklmnopqrstuvwxyz";

char salt[16];
for (i=0; i<16; i++)
  salt[i] = itoa64[(int)random()%64];
```
Recommended exercise

Take a look at the code examples in EVP_EncryptInit(3).

Adapt this into a simple command-line tool to encrypt/decrypt stdin using AES 256bit CBC with a SHA1 digest with keying material derived from a passphrase (see EVP_BytesToKey(3); use RAND_bytes(3) to generate a suitable salt), compatible with openssl enc.

Compare:

https://stevens.netmeister.org/631/aed-exercise.html
References

- crypto(3)
- EVP_EncryptInit(3)
- EVP_BytesToKey(3)
- http://tldp.org/LDP/LG/issue87/vinayak.html