

# Polling for Completion

If a parent process uses `wait` for a child process, then the parent process can't do other things

```
#include "csapp.h"

int main() {
    pid_t pid;
    pid = Fork();
    if (pid == 0) {
        Sleep(3);
    } else {
        int status;
        while (Wait(&status) != pid) {
            printf("Tick...\n");
            Sleep(1);
        }
    }
    return 0;
}
```

[Copy](#)

# Polling for Completion

The **WNOHANG** option causes `waitpid` to always return immediately, but with 0 if a child process hasn't finished

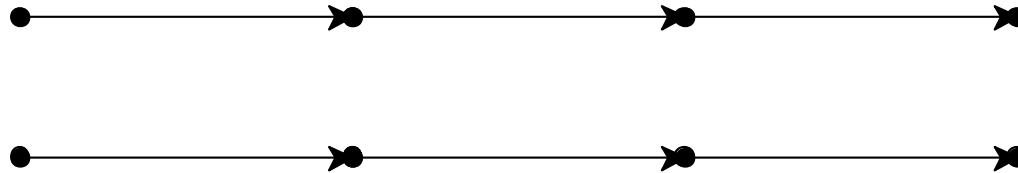
```
#include "csapp.h"

int main() {
    pid_t pid;
    pid = Fork();
    if (pid == 0) {
        Sleep(3);
    } else {
        int status;
        while (Waitpid(pid, &status, WNOHANG) != pid) {
            printf("Tick...\n");
            Sleep(1);
        }
    }
    return 0;
}
```

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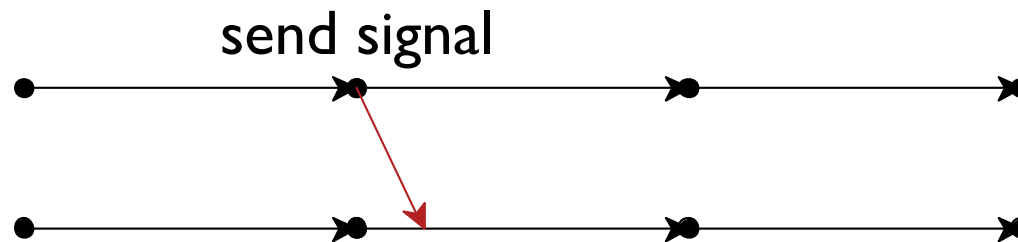
# Signals

A **signal** is a general mechanism to push information to a process  
as opposed to *pulling* via *syscall*



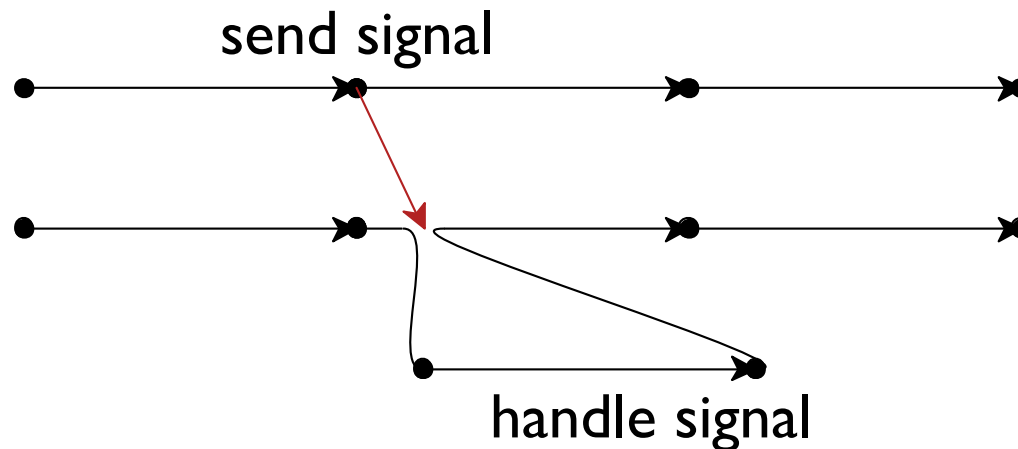
# Signals

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as opposed to *pulling* via *syscall*



# Signals

A **signal** is a general mechanism to push information to a process  
as opposed to *pulling* via `syscall`



|                      |                   |                              |
|----------------------|-------------------|------------------------------|
| <code>SIGINT</code>  | <code>= 2</code>  | Ctrl-C                       |
| <code>SIGKILL</code> | <code>= 9</code>  | sent by <code>kill -9</code> |
| <code>SIGALRM</code> | <code>= 14</code> | timer expired                |
| <code>SIGTERM</code> | <code>= 15</code> | sent by <code>kill</code>    |
| <code>SIGCHLD</code> | <code>= 20</code> | child state changed          |

# Receiving Signals

```
#include <signal.h>

typedef void (*sighandler_t) (int);

sighandler_t signal(int signum, sighandler_t handler);
```

Sets **handler** as the current process's handler for **signum**

Predefined handlers:

- **SIG\_IGN** — ignore
- **SIG\_DFL** — default, which is specific to **signum**

can't change handler for **SIGKILL**

# Sending Signals

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

int kill(pid_t pid, int signum);
```

Sends **signum** to **pid**

Child process terminates ⇒ kernel sends **SIGCHLD**

Ctl-C in a shell ⇒ shell sends **SIGINT**

\$ **kill** *pid* ⇒ **kill** sends **SIGTERM**

\$ **kill -9** *pid* ⇒ **kill** sends **SIGKILL**

# SIGCHLD Example

```
#include "csapp.h"

void done(int sigchld) {
    int status;
    Wait(&status);
    sio_puts("done\n");
}

int main() {
    Signal(SIGCHLD, done);

    if (Fork() == 0) {
        Sleep(3);
        exit(0);
    } else {
        while (1) {
            printf("Tick...\n");
            Sleep(1);
        }
    }
}
```

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# Signal Properties

- No extra data with a signal  
only info is that it happened
- A signal that is sent but not delivered is **pending**  
**delivered** means handler is called; takes some time
- No queue: a signal is pending or not  
multiple sends before delivery  $\Rightarrow$  one pending
- A signal can be **blocked** to delay delivery  
send to blocked  $\Rightarrow$  stays pending until unblocked
- Each signal has a handler for delivery

# Process State

| signal  | pending | blocked | handler      |
|---------|---------|---------|--------------|
| SIGHUP  | 0       | 0       | SIG_DFL      |
| SIGINT  | 1       | 1       | handle_ctl_c |
| SIGQUIT | 0       | 1       | handle_quit  |
| SIGILL  | 1       | 0       | give_up      |
| SIGTRAP | 0       | 0       | SIG_DFL      |
| ...     |         |         |              |

➔ Kernel makes process call `give_up` with:

| signal  | pending | blocked | handler      |
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| ...     |         |         |              |

a delivered signal is blocked until handler returns

# Process State

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| ...     |         |         |              |

➔ Kernel makes process ca

other signals not blocked and may trigger nested handlers

| signal  | pending | blocked | handler      |
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| SIGTRAP | 0       | 0       | SIG_DFL      |
| ...     |         |         |              |

# Signal Mask

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

```
int sigprocmask(int how, const sigset_t *set, sigset_t *oldset);
```

A process's **signal mask** is a set of signals that are blocked

- **how = SIG\_BLOCK**: add to mask
- **how = SIG\_UNBLOCK**: remove from mask
- **how = SIG\_SETMASK**: set mask

```
int sigemptyset(sigset_t *set);  
int sigaddset(sigset_t *set, int signum);  
int sigdelset(sigset_t *set, int signum);
```

# Ctl-C Example

```
#include "csapp.h"

static void hit(int sigchld) {
    sio_puts("got Ctl-c\n");
}

int main() {
    sigset_t sigs;
    Sigemptyset(&sigs);
    Sigaddset(&sigs, SIGINT);

    Signal(SIGINT, hit);

    while (1) {
        // Sigprocmask(SIG_BLOCK, &sigs, NULL);
        Sleep(1);
        // Sigprocmask(SIG_UNBLOCK, &sigs, NULL);
        printf("Tick\n");
    }
}
```

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Uncomment  $\Rightarrow$   
Ctl-c only at tick

Multiple Ctl-C  
between ticks  $\Rightarrow$   
only one printout

**sleep** in handler  
 $\Rightarrow$  cannot interrupt

Comment  $\Rightarrow$  signal  
interrupts **sleep**

# Reacting to a Signal

```
#include "csapp.h"

static int child_running = 0;

void done(int sigchld) {
    int status;
    Wait(&status);
    child_running = 0;
}

int main() {
    Signal(SIGCHLD, done);
    while (1) {
        if (!child_running) {
            child_running = 1;
            if (Fork() == 0) {
                Sleep(3);
                printf("done\n");
                exit(0);
            }
        }
        printf("Tick...\n");
        Sleep(1);
    }
}
```

[Copy](#)

Signal handlers often set a global variable to communicate with the rest of the program

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                exit(0);
            }
        }
        printf("Tick...\n");
        Sleep(1);
    }
}
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[Copy](#)

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**Bug:** try removing parent `printf` and `Sleep`, and compile with `-O2`



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                printf("done\n");
                exit(0);
            }
        }
        printf("Tick...\n");
        Sleep(1);
    }
}
```

[Copy](#)

Signal handlers often set a global variable to communicate with the rest of the program

**Bug:** try removing parent `printf` and `Sleep`, and compile with `-O2`

⇒ need `volatile` on `child_running`

Interacting with a signal handler is almost the only valid use for `volatile`

# Signal Handlers are Concurrent

```
#include "csapp.h"

static volatile int child_running = 0;
static volatile pid_t pid = 0;

void done(int sigchld) {
    int status;
    Waitpid(pid, &status, 0);
    child_running = 0;
}

int main() {
    Signal(SIGCHLD, done);
    while (1) {
        if (!child_running) {
            child_running = 1;
            pid = Fork();
            if (pid == 0)
                return 0;
        }
    }
}
```

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# Signal Handlers are Concurrent

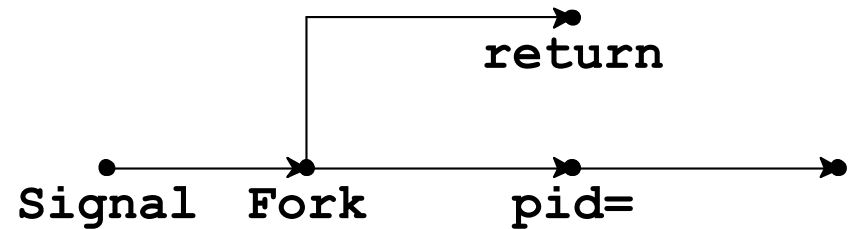
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#include "csapp.h"

static volatile int child_running = 0;
static volatile pid_t pid = 0;

void done(int sigchld) {
    int status;
    Waitpid(pid, &status, 0);
    child_running = 0;
}

int main() {
    Signal(SIGCHLD, done);
    while (1) {
        if (!child_running) {
            child_running = 1;
            pid = Fork();
            if (pid == 0)
                return 0;
        }
    }
}
```

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# Signal Handlers are Concurrent

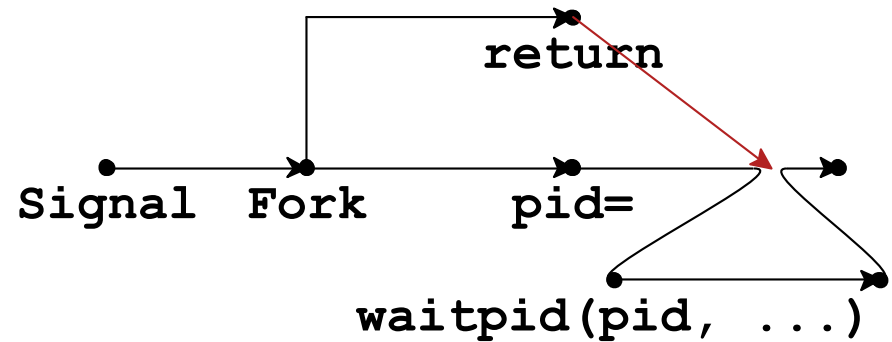
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static volatile int child_running = 0;
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    Waitpid(pid, &status, 0);
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    Signal(SIGCHLD, done);
    while (1) {
        if (!child_running) {
            child_running = 1;
            pid = Fork();
            if (pid == 0)
                return 0;
        }
    }
}
```

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# Signal Handlers are Concurrent

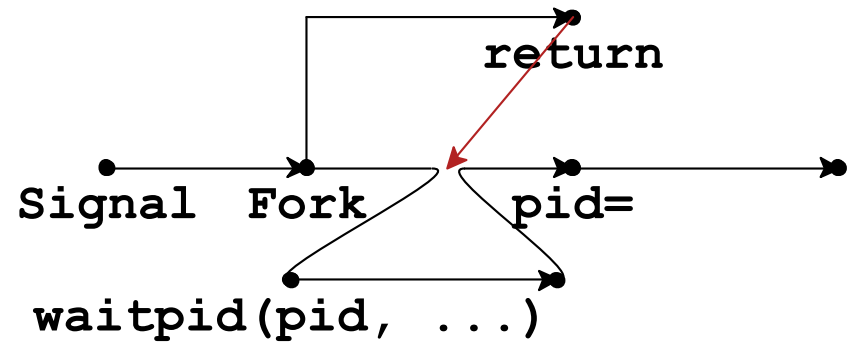
```
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static volatile int child_running = 0;
static volatile pid_t pid = 0;

void done(int sigchld) {
    int status;
    Waitpid(pid, &status, 0);
    child_running = 0;
}

int main() {
    Signal(SIGCHLD, done);
    while (1) {
        if (!child_running) {
            child_running = 1;
            pid = Fork();
            if (pid == 0)
                return 0;
        }
    }
}
```

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# Signal Handlers are Concurrent

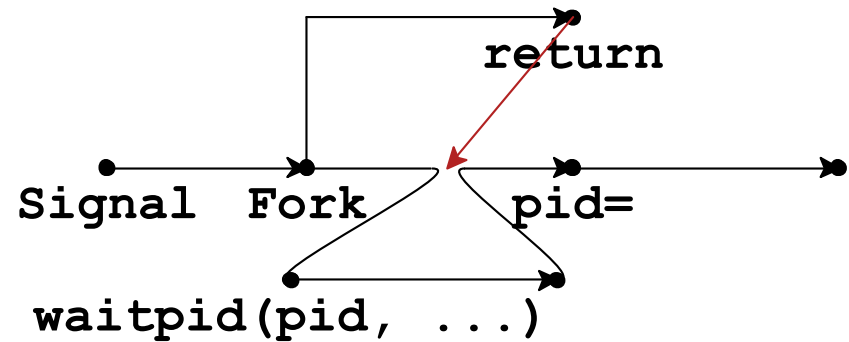
```
#include "csapp.h"

static volatile int child_running = 0;
static volatile pid_t pid = 0;

void done(int sigchld) {
    int status;
    Waitpid(pid, &status, 0);
    child_running = 0;
}

int main() {
    Signal(SIGCHLD, done);
    while (1) {
        if (!child_running) {
            child_running = 1;
            pid = Fork();
            if (pid == 0)
                return 0;
        }
    }
}
```

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Solution: **block** signals during  
`pid = Fork()`

# Reliable SIGCHLD Handling

```
int main() {
    sigset_t sigs;
    Sigemptyset(&sigs);
    Sigaddset(&sigs, SIGCHLD);

    Signal(SIGCHLD, done);

    while (1) {
        if (!child_running) {
            child_running = 1;
            Sigprocmask(SIG_BLOCK, &sigs, NULL);
            pid = Fork();
            Sigprocmask(SIG_UNBLOCK, &sigs, NULL);
            if (pid == 0)
                return 0;
        }
    }
}
```

[Copy](#)

# Async-Signal-Safe

```
#include "csapp.h"

static void ack(int sigchld) {
    printf("got alarm\n");
}

int main() {
    Signal(SIGALRM, ack);

    if (Fork() == 0) {
        while (1)
            Kill(getppid(), SIGALRM);
    } else {
        double a = 1.0;
        while (1) {
            printf("%f ", a);
            a = a + 1.0;
        }
    }
}
```

[Copy](#)



# Async-Signal-Safe

```
#include "csapp.h"

static void ack(int sigchld) {
    printf("got alarm\n");
}

int main() {
    Signal(SIGALRM, ack);

    if (Fork() == 0) {
        while (1)
            Kill(getppid(), SIGALRM);
    } else {
        double a = 1.0;
        while (1) {
            printf("%f ", a);
            a = a + 1.0;
        }
    }
}
```

Eventually freezes

`printf` is not ***async-signal-safe***

[Copy](#)

# Async-Signal-Safe

```
#include "csapp.h"

static void ack(int sigchld) {
    sio_puts("got alarm\n");
}

int main() {
    Signal(SIGALRM, ack);

    if (Fork() == 0) {
        while (1)
            Kill(getppid(), SIGALRM);
    } else {
        double a = 1.0;
        while (1) {
            printf("%f ", a);
            a = a + 1.0;
        }
    }
}
```

[Copy](#)

`sio_puts` from `csapp.c` uses only async-signal-safe functions

# Signal Handlers and `errno`

```
#include "csapp.h"

static void ack(int sigchld) {
    /* broken; sets errno to ECHILD: */
    waitpid(getpid(), NULL, 0);
}

int main() {
    Signal(SIGALRM, ack);
    if (Fork() == 0) {
        while (1)
            Kill(getppid(), SIGALRM);
    } else {
        while (1) {
            /* broken; should set errno to ENOENT */
            open("not_there.txt", O_RDONLY);
            if (errno == ECHILD)
                printf("ECHILD from open?!\n");
        }
    }
}
```

Handler that  
makes syscalls  
implicitly shares  
**`errno`**

⇒ save **`errno`** in  
entry and restore  
**`errno`** on exit

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# Guidelines for Writing Safe Handlers

- Keep your handlers as simple as possible
- Call only async-signal-safe functions in a handler
- Save and restore **errno** on entry and exit
- Declare shared variables as **volatile**
- Protect shared data by temporarily blocking all signals

# Waiting for Signals

If you just need to wait for a child:

```
Waitpid(pid, &status, 0);
```

Wait for a Ctl-C? Or child, whichever happens first?

```
/* ... install handlers to set ctl_c_hit  
and child_finished ... */  
  
while (!ctl_c_hit && !child_finished) { }
```

**Busy waiting** like that is too wasteful

## sigsuspend

```
#include <signal.h>

int sigsuspend(const sigset_t *mask);
```

*Atomically* sets the signal mask to **mask** and waits for a signal to be delivered

useful if **mask** unblocks some signals

Restores the signal mask before returning

# Using sigsuspend

```
#include "csapp.h"

static void hit(int sigchld) { sio_puts("got Ctl-c\n"); }
static void work() { Sleep(1); } /* simulate useful work */

int main() {
    sigset_t sigs, empty_mask;
    Sigemptyset(&sigs); Sigemptyset(&empty_mask);
    Signal(SIGINT, hit);

    Sigaddset(&sigs, SIGINT);
    Sigprocmask(SIG_BLOCK, &sigs, NULL);

    work();
    Sigsuspend(&empty_mask);

    return 0;
}
```

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# Using sigsuspend

```
#include "csapp.h"

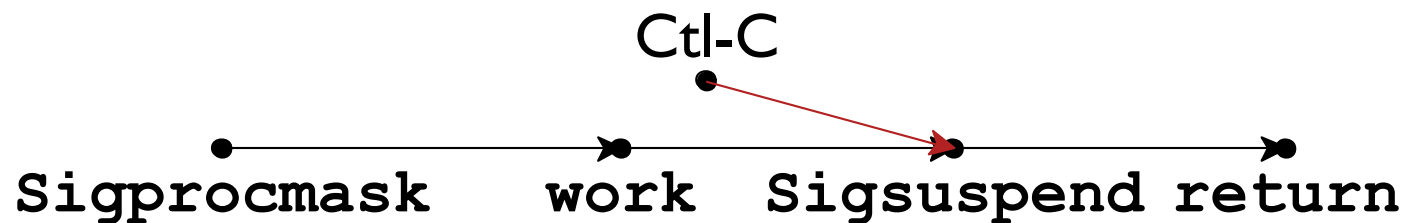
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    Signal(SIGINT, hit);

    Sigaddset(&sigs, SIGINT);
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    work();
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    return 0;
}
```





# Using sigsuspend

```
#include "csapp.h"

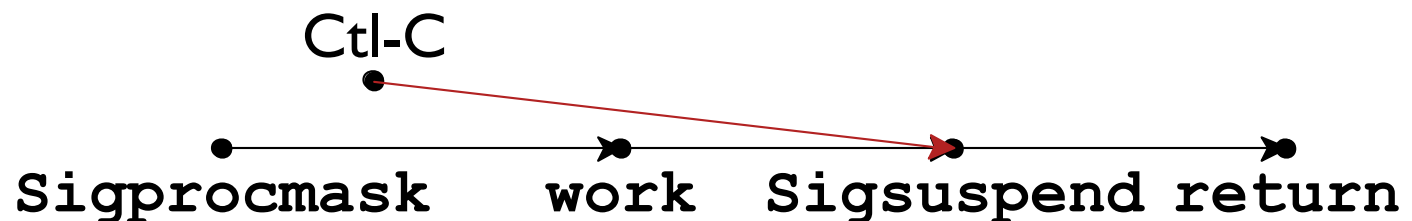
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    return 0;
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```



# Using sigsuspend

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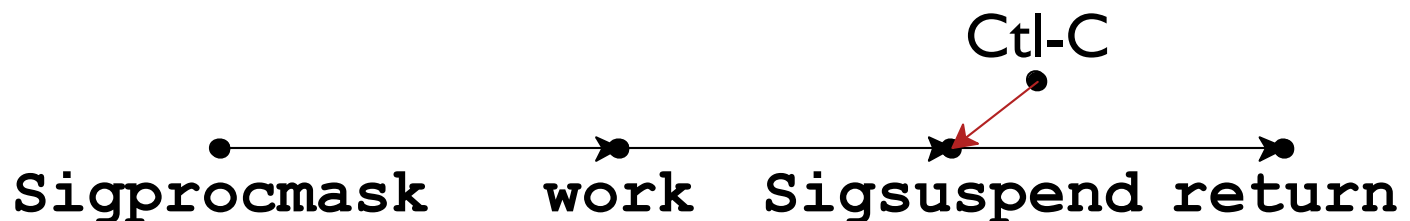
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    Signal(SIGINT, hit);

    Sigaddset(&sigs, SIGINT);
    Sigprocmask(SIG_BLOCK, &sigs, NULL);

    work();
    Sigsuspend(&empty_mask);

    return 0;
}
```



# Misusing `sleep` as `sigsuspend`

Since `sleep` also returns on a signal:

```
Sigaddset(&sigset, SIGINT);  
Sigprocmask(SIG_BLOCK, &sigset, NULL);  
  
work();  
  
Sigprocmask(SIG_SETMASK, &empty_mask, NULL);  
while (Sleep(1000) == 0) { }
```

[Copy](#)

# Misusing sleep as sigsuspend

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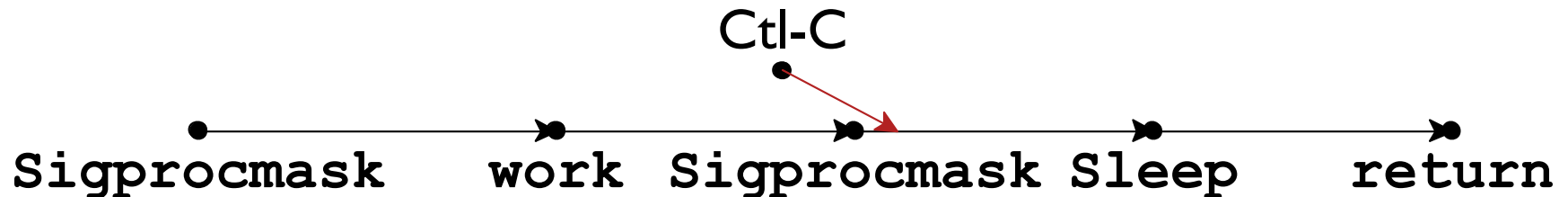


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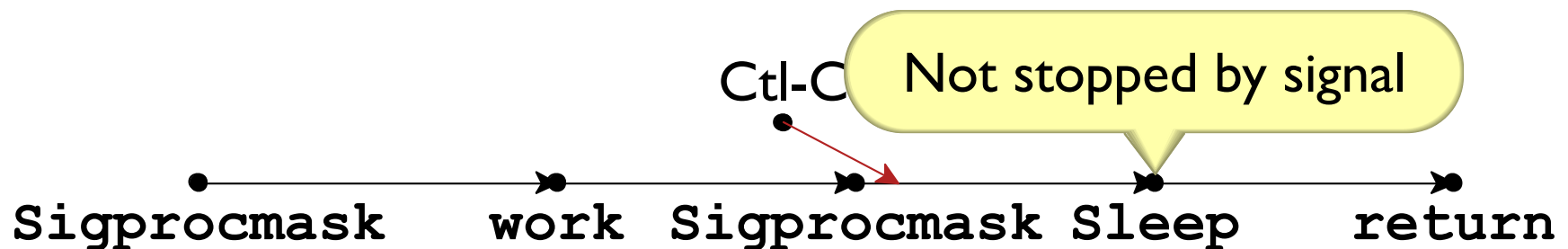


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while (Sleep(1000) == 0) { }
```

[Copy](#)



`sigprocmask` plus `sleep` is not **atomic**

`pause` has the same problem

# Guideline for Waiting for Signals

- Use **sigsuspend** to wait for signals
- Keep in mind that multiple signals may have happened
- Don't busy-wait  
because it takes CPU from useful work
- Don't use **sleep** or **pause** to wait for a signal  
because it doesn't work

# Stopped Processes

In addition to

- ***running*** or
- ***terminated/zombie***

there's one more possible state for a process:

- ***stopped***

The special signals **SIGSTOP** and **SIGCONT** stop and continue a process, respectively

**signal** can't change **SIGSTOP** handler

A shell typically reacts to Ctl-Z by stopping a process

Technically, uses **SIGTSTP** instead of **SIGSTOP**



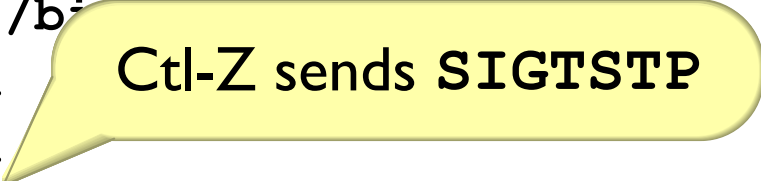
# Stop and Continue in a Shell

```
$ /bin/cat
hi
hi
^Z
[1]+  Stopped                  /bin/cat
$ ps ax | grep /bin/cat
13388 pts/0      T          0:00 /bin/cat
13393 pts/0      S+         0:00 grep --color=auto /bin/cat
$ fg %1
/bin/cat
hi again
hi again
```

# Stop and Continue in a Shell

```
$ /bin/c
hi
hi
^Z

[1]+  Stopped                  /bin/cat
$ ps ax | grep /bin/cat
13388 pts/0      T          0:00 /bin/cat
13393 pts/0      S+         0:00 grep --color=auto /bin/cat
$ fg %1
/bin/cat
hi again
hi again
```



# Stop and Continue in a Shell

```
$ /bin/cat
```

```
hi
```

```
hi
```

```
^Z
```

```
[1]+  Stopped
```

T mean "stopped"

```
$ ps ax | grep /bin/cat
```

```
13388 pts/0    T          0:00 /bin/cat
```

```
13393 pts/0    S+         0:00 grep --color=auto /bin/cat
```

```
$ fg %1
```

```
/bin/cat
```

```
hi again
```

```
hi again
```

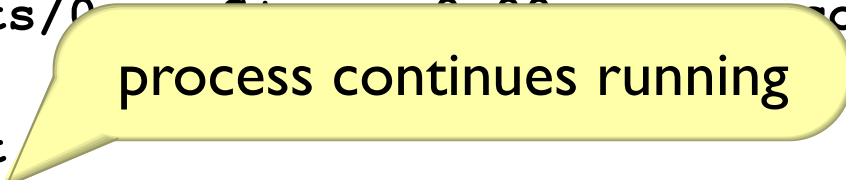
# Stop and Continue in a Shell

```
$ /bin/cat
hi
hi
^Z
[1]+  Stopped                  /bin/cat
$ ps ax |
13388 pts/0                    S+                  0:00 grep --color=auto /bin/cat
13393 pts/0                    S+                  0:00 grep --color=auto /bin/cat
$ fg %1
/bin/cat
hi again
hi again
```

**fg %1 sends SIGCONT**

# Stop and Continue in a Shell

```
$ /bin/cat
hi
hi
^Z
[1]+  Stopped                  /bin/cat
$ ps ax | grep /bin/cat
13388 pts/0      T          0:00 /bin/cat
13393 pts/0      T          0:00 color=auto /bin/cat
$ fg %1
/bin/cat
hi again
hi again
```



# Child Stop and Continue Signals

**SIGCHLD** is sent when a child is stopped or continued

By default, `waitpid` does not report stop or continue

- Use **WUNTRACED** option to get “stopped” reports  
detect with **WIFSTOPPED (status)**
- Use **WCONTINUED** option to get “continued” reports  
detect with **WIFCONTINUED (status)**

# Shells and Process Groups

When a shell sends a signal, it sends it to a **process group**

```
#include "csapp.h"

void hit(int sigchld) {
    static int hit_once = 0;
    if (hit_once) _exit(0);
    hit_once = 1;
    sio_puts("ignoring first Ctl-C\n");
}

int main() {
    Signal(SIGINT, hit);

    Fork();
    Fork();

    while (1) Pause();
}
```

Ctl-C ⇒ four  
messages

Negated group ID  
to **kill** sends to  
all processes in  
group

# Setting a Process Group

```
#include <unistd.h>

int setpgid(pid_t pid, pid_t pgid);
```

Sets the process group of `pid` to `gid`

subject to many constraints

A 0 for `pid` or `gid` uses the current process's ID

`setpgid(0, 0)`  $\Rightarrow$  current process in a new group



# Hiding Ctl-C from a Child Process

```
#include "csapp.h"

void hit(int sigchld) {
    static int hits = 0;
    if (++hits == 9) _exit(0);
}

static char *const argv[] = { "/bin/cat", NULL };

int main() {
    pid_t pid;
    Signal(SIGINT, hit);

    pid = Fork();
    if (pid == 0) {
        // Setpgid(0, 0);
        Execve(argv[0], argv, NULL);
    }

    Waitpid(pid, NULL, 0);
    return 0;
}
```

**Setpgid**

⇒ **/bin/cat**  
survives Ctl-C