Using htop

htop is an interactive process viewer for Unix systems. It is a text-mode application (for console or X terminals) and requires ncurses.

htop is NOT installed by default

We can run htop from a command window by entering:

htop

| 1 [2 [3 [4 [5 [6 [7 [8 [| 27.9% 22.1% 18.4% 20.9% 14.6% 13.1% 12.4% 12.3% |] 14 [] 15 [] 16 [] 17 [] 18 [] 19 [] 20 [| | | 1.9%] 1.9%] 0.6%] 0.0%] 0.0%] 0.0%] 0.0%] | | 25 [26 [27 [28 [29 [30 [31 [32 [| 12,4% 8,5% 11,0% 17,5% 13,4% 6,5% 7,9% 7,1% | 38 39 40 41 42 43 44 | | 1.3% 0.0% 0.7% 0.0% 0.0% 0.0% 0.0% 0.0% 0.0 |
|--|--|--|------------------------------|--------------------|---|------------|--|--|--|-------------|---|
| 9 [10 [| | | | | 0.6%] | | 3 [4 [| 6.6% 6.5% | 45 46 | | 0.0% |
| 11 [| | 1 23 | | | 0.0% | | 5 [] | 3.3% | 40 | | 0.6% |
| 12 [| |] 24 [| | | 0.0% | | 6 [| 12.3% | 48 | | 0.0% |
| Mem[| | | | | | | | , 282 thr; 2 r | | g | |
| Swp[| 0/0MB] Load average: 0.36 0.26 0.20 | | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | L | ptime: 6 | days, 20:52:5 | 5 | | |
| PID USER | PRI | NI VIRT | RES | SHR S | CPU% | ME MSs | TIME+ | Command | | | |
| 73098 muse | 20 | 0 9767M | and the second second second | 49408 S | | | | ./encodingPro | cess | -instanceId | 2 -eventsPor |
| 73181 muse | 20 | 0 9767M | | 49408 S | | 1.3 | | ./encodingPro | | | |
| 73097 muse | 20 | 0 2281M | 128M | 46900 S | 7.0 | 0.2 | 1h05:20 | ./encodingPro | cess | -instanceId | 1 -eventsPor |
| 73169 muse | 20 | 0 9767M | | 49408 S | | 1.3 | | ./encodingPro | | | |
| 73157 muse | 20 | 0 9767M | | 49408 S | | | | ./encodingPro | | | |
| 73178 muse | 20 | 0 9767M | | 49408 S | | | | ./encodingPro | | | |
| 10510 muse | 20 | 0 9767M | | 49408 S | | 1.3 | | ./encodingPro | | | |
| 73180 muse 10511 muse | 20 20 | 0 9767M 0 9767M | | 49408 S 49408 S | | 1.3 | | <pre>./encodingPro ./encodingPro</pre> | | | |
| 10587 muse | 20 | 0 9767M | | 49408 S | | 1.3 | | ./encodingPro | | | |
| 10524 muse | 20 | 0 9767M | | 49408 S | | 1.3 | | ./encodingPro | | | |
| 10556 muse | 20 | 0 9767M | | 49408 S | | 1.3 | | ./encodingPro | | | |
| 10516 muse | 20 | 0 9767M | | 49408 S | | 1.3 | | ./encodingPro | | | |
| 10517 muse | 20 | 0 9767M | | 49408 S | | 1.3 | | ./encodingPro | | | |
| 10518 muse | 20 | 0 9767M | 807M | 49408 S | 3.0 | 1.3 | 0:14.14 | ./encodingPro | cess | -instanceId | 2 -eventsPor |
| 10519 muse | 20 | 0 9767M | | 49408 S | | 1.3 | | ./encodingPro | | | |
| 10521 muse | 20 | 0 9767M | | 49408 S | | 1.3 | | ./encodingPro | | | |
| 10523 muse | 20 | 0 9767M | | 49408 S | | 1.3 | | ./encodingPro | | | |
| 10527 muse | 20 | 0 9767M | | 49408 S | | 1.3 | | ./encodingPro | | | |
| 10567 muse 10522 muse | 20 20 | 0 9767M 0 9767M | | 49408 S | | 1.3 1.3 | | <pre>./encodingPro ./encodingPro</pre> | | | |
| 10525 muse | 20 | 0 9767M | | 49408 S | | 1.3 | | ./encodingPro | | | |
| 10526 muse | 20 | 0 9767M | | 49408 S | | 1.3 | | ./encodingPro | | | |
| 10528 muse | 20 | 0 9767M | | 49408 S | | 1.3 | | ./encodingPro | | | |
| 10557 muse | 20 | 0 9767M | | 49408 S | | 1.3 | | ./encodingPro | | | |
| 10558 muse | 20 | 0 9767M | | 49408 S | | 1.3 | | ./encodingPro | | | |
| 10559 muse | 20 | 0 9767M | | 49408 S | | 1.3 | | ./encodingPro | | | |
| 10561 muse | 20 | 0 9767M | | 49408 S | | 1.3 | | ./encodingPro | | | |
| 10562 muse | 20 | | | 49408 S | | 1.3 | | ./encodingPro | | -instanceId | 2 -eventsPor |
| Help F2Setup | FaSearc | h <mark>F4</mark> Filter | 5Tree | F6Sor | tBy F7 | Nice - | F8Nice + | 9 <mark>Kill F10</mark> Qui | t | | |

htop is a more graphical version of the Linux top command (which is available on all distros). htop is much better as displaying the resources of multi-processor systems.

The htop display is split in to two main areas. At the top of the page is the details about the processors and memory, in this example we can see 48 processors (they are hyper threading so its actually 24 cores from two processers (so 2 x 12 core CPUs).

Each core can show up to 100% utilisation, so a server running at full CPU load would show a total CPU usage of 4800%

The bottom window shows each process running (PID is process ID) and what resources each process is consuming.

htop Shortcuts

| Description | Function Keys | Shortcut Keys |
|-------------|---------------|---------------|
| Help | F1 | h |
| Setup | F2 | S |
| | | |

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| Search Process | F3 | / | |
|--------------------------|-----|---|--|
| Invert Sort Order | F4 | | |
| Tree | F5 | t | |
| Sort By | F6 | > | |
| Nice - (change priority) | F7 | [| |
| Nice + (change priority) | F8 |] | |
| Kill a process | F9 | k | |
| Quit | F10 | q | |
| | | • | |

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Permanent link: http://cameraangle.co.uk/doku.php?id=using_htop

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