ULI101: INTRODUCTION TO UNIX / LINUX AND THE INTERNET

WEEK 10 LESSON I

INTRODUCTION TO SHELL SCRIPTING / CREATING SHELL SCRIPTS / SHELL VARIABLES

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LESSON I TOPICS

Shell Scripts

- Definition / Purpose
- Considerations When Creating Shell Scripts /
- Comments / She-bang line / echo command
- Creating Shell Scripts / Running Shell Scripts / Demonstration

Shell Variables

- Definition / Purpose
- Environment Variables / User Defined Variables / read command
- Demonstration

Perform Week 10 Tutorial

- Investigation I
- Review Questions (Questions Part A I 3, Part B Walk-Thru #I)

Definition

A shell script is a computer program designed to be run by the Unix shell, a command-line interpreter.

Typical operations performed by shell scripts include file manipulation, program execution, and printing text.

Reference: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Shell_script



Considerations When Creating Shell Scripts

The reason to create shell scripts is to **automate** the execution of commonly issued **Linux commands**, **shell operations**, **math calculations** as well as **Logic / Loop** operations.

Prior to the creation of the shell script file, you should **plan** the shell script and **list steps** that you want to accomplish.

Those **sequence** of steps can then be used to create your shell script.

Considerations When Creating Shell Scripts

Once you have **planned** your shell script you need to **create** a **shell script file** via a **text editor** that will contain Linux commands.

When creating a shell script, avoid using filenames of **existing** Linux commands. You can use the **which** command to see if the filename is recognized as a Unix/Linux command: (e.g. which shell-script-name)

Adding an **extension** to your shell script filename will help to **identify** the type of shell that the shell script was designed to run.

Examples:

clean-directory.bash
copy-directory-structure.csh

#!

The Shebang Line

The **#** symbol makes the shell ignores running text after this symbol so that text can be used to provide information of how the shell script works.

This is a comment

The **she-bang** line is a **special comment** at top of your shell script to run a shell script within a specific shell.

Example:

#!/bin/bash

The shebang line <u>must</u> appear on the <u>first</u> line and at the <u>beginning</u> of the line, otherwise, it will be treated as a **regular comment** and **ignored**.

#!

The Shebang Line

Since Linux shells have evolved over a period of time, using a **she-bang line** <u>forces</u> the shell script to run in **a specific shell**, which could **prevent errors** in case an <u>older</u> shell does not recognize newer features from recent shells.

You can use the **which** command to determine the **full pathname** of the shell.

which bash /bin/bash

Displaying Text with the echo Command

When creating shell scripts, it is useful to **display text** to prompt the user for data, display results or notify the user of incorrect usage of the shell script.

The echo command is used to display text.

To prevent problems with special characters, it is recommended to use **double-quotes** which will allow the values of variables to be displayed.

Example:

echo "My username is: \$USER"



echo hello hello echo 'hello' hello echo 'My username is: \$USER' My username is: \$USER

echo "My username is: \$USER"
My username is: murray.saul

RUNNING A SHELL SCRIPT

Running Shell Scripts

In order to run your shell script by name, you need to first assign **execute permissions** for the user.

To run your shell script, you can issue the shell script's pathname using a *relative*, *absolute*, or *relative-to-home* pathname

Examples:

chmod u+x myscript.bash

./myscript.bash
/home/username/myscript.bash
~/myscript.bash

FYI: You can **run** a shell script <u>without</u> **execute permissions** by issuing the **shell command** followed by the shell script's pathname.

Example:

bash ~murray.saul/scripts/week10-check-1

You can add the **current directory** that contains the shell script so it can be issued only by **filename** (not pathname).

Example:

PATH=\$PATH:.

To be **persistent** on new shell instances, setting the PATH environment variable would need to be added in your **profile** (start-up) file (discussed in a later lesson).

INSTRUCTOR DEMONSTRATION

Task:

Create a Bash Shell script to clear the screen and then display all users that are currently logged onto the system.



Variables

Variables are used to **store information** to be referenced and manipulated in a computer program. They also provide a way of labeling data with a descriptive name, so our programs can be understood more clearly by the reader and ourselves...

... It is helpful to think of variables as **containers** that hold information. Their sole purpose is to label and store data in memory. This data can then be used throughout your program.

Reference: https://launchschool.com/books/ruby/read/variables



Using Variables

Shell variables are classified into two groups:

System (shell) variables:

Describes the OS system's working environment which can be used in a shell script.

User-created variables:

Customized variables created by the programmer for use in a shell script.

The name of a variable can be any sequence of **letters** and **numbers**, but it must **NOT** begin with a number!



Environment Variables

Shell **environment** variables define the **working environment** while in your shell. Some of these variables are displayed in the table below and its value can be viewed by issuing the following pipeline command: **set** | **more**

Variable Name	Purpose
PSI	Primary shell prompt
PWD	Absolute path of present working directory
HOME	Absolute path to user's home
PATH	List of directories where commands / programs are located
HOST	Host name of the computer
USER	Name of the user logged in
SHELL	Name (type) of current shell used

Environment Variables

Placing a dollar sign \$ <u>before</u> a **variable name** will cause the variable to **expand** to the value contained in the variable.

Examples:

```
echo "My current location is: $PWD"
who | grep $USER
echo $HOST
```

echo "My current location is: \$PWD" My current location is: /home/murray.saul

who | grep \$USER murray.saul pts/0

Jun 14 08:38 (99.236.168.165)

echo \$HOST matrix

User Defined (Created) Variables

User-defined variables are variables which can be created by the user and exist in the session. Reference: <u>https://mariadb.com/kb/en/user-defined-variables/</u>

You assign a value by using the **equal** sign (without spaces)

name=value

If a variable's value contain spaces or tabs, it should be surrounded by **quotes**

fullName="David G Ward"

User Defined Variables

There are a few methods to remove a variable's value:

variableName=

or

unset variableName

Examples:

customerName=
unset userAge

customerName=ACME
echo \$customerName
ACME

customerName=
echo \$customerName

userAge=57 echo \$userAge 57 unset userAge echo \$userAge

Prompting User for Input to Store in a Variable:

The echo command with the -n option will display text <u>without</u> the **newline** character.

The **read** command pauses and waits for a user to enter data and then stores the enter data into a **variable** when the user presses the **ENTER** key.

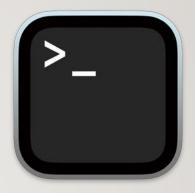
Example:

echo -n "Enter your age: "
read age
echo "Your age is \$age"

For **Bash shell scripts**, the **read** command with the **-p** option prompts the user for data <u>without</u> requiring the **echo** command.

Example:

read -p "Enter your age: " age
echo "Your age is \$age"



echo -n "Enter your age: " ; read age Enter your age: 57

echo "Your age is \$age" Your age is 57

read -p "Enter your age: " age Enter your age: 57 echo "Your age is \$age" Your age is 57

User Defined (Created) Variables

Issuing the **readonly** command after setting the variable's value **prevents** the user from changing the value of the variable while the shell script is running or during the duration of your shell session.

Examples:

```
readonly name
readonly phone="123-4567"
```

name="Evan Weaver"
echo \$name
Evan Weaver
name="Murray Saul"
echo \$name
Murray Saul
readonly name
name="Mark Fernandes"
-bash: name: readonly variable
readonly phone="123-4567"

readonly phone="123-4567"
phone=456-7891
-bash: phone: readonly variable

INSTRUCTOR DEMONSTRATION

Task1:

Write a Bash shell script to display the following message using an **environment variable** so it will work in any user's terminal if the shell script was issued:

My username is: (your-username)



Task2:

Write a Bash shell script to prompt the user for their **full name** and prompt the user for their **age** to be stored in **user-defined** variables. Display the following output using the values of those variables:

Enter your Full Name: (your full name) Enter your Age: (your age) Hello, my name is (your full name), and I am (your age) years old.

Getting Practice

To get practice to help perform assignment #3, perform Week 10 Tutorial:

- INVESTIGATION I: CREATING A SHELL SCRIPT
- INVESTIGATION 2: USING VARIABLES IN SHELL SCRIPTS
- LINUX PRACTICE QUESTIONS (Part A I 3, Part B Walk-Thru #I)

ULI101: INTRODUCTION TO UNIX / LINUX AND THE INTERNET

WEEK 10: LESSON 2

POSITIONAL PARAMETERS / COMMAND SUBSTITUTION / MATH OPERATIONS TESTING CONDITIONS / CONTROL FLOW STATEMENTS (LOGIC / LOOPS)

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LESSON 2 TOPICS

Positional Parameters

Definition / Purpose / Usage / Demonstration

Command Substitution / Math Operations

Definition / Purpose / Usage / Demonstration

Control Flow Statements

- Definition / Purpose
- Exit Status **\$?** / Testing Conditions (**test**) / Demonstration
- Control Flow Statements (if, if-else, for) / Demonstration

Perform Week 10 Tutorial

- Investigation 2
- Review Questions (Questions Part A #4, Part B Walk-Thru #2)

Work on Assignment #3: (Sections 3 and 4)

arg1 arg2 arg3 ... argN

A positional parameter is a variable within a shell program; its value is set from an **argument** specified on the command line that invokes the program.

Positional parameters are numbered and are referred to with a preceding "\$": \$1, \$2, \$3, and so on.

Reference: <u>http://osr600doc.xinuos.com/en/SDK_tools/_Positional_Parameters.html</u>

arg1 arg2 arg3 ... argN

Assigning Values as Positional Parameters

There are **two methods** to **assign values** as positional parameters:

- Use the set command inside a shell script with values as arguments
- Run a shell script with **arguments** (i.e. like a command)

arg1 arg2 arg3 ... argN

Using the set command:

set apples oranges bananas

You place a dollar sign (\$) prior to the number corresponding to the <u>position</u> of the argument

Examples:

echo \$1 echo \$2 echo \$3 set apples oranges bananas
echo \$1
apples
echo \$2
oranges
echo \$3
bananas
echo \$4

arg1 arg2 arg3 ... argN

Running a Shell Script with Arguments:

You would use **positional parameters** in your shell script that would **expand** the positional parameters with its stored value.

Here are the contents of the shell script called myScript.bash:

#!/bin/bash

echo "First argument is \$1"
echo "Second argument is \$2"

You would then issue the **myScript.bash** shell script with **arguments** that would be used within the shell script. For Example:

./mySript.bash apples oranges

cat myScript.bash
#!/bin/bash

echo "First argument is \$1"
echo "Second argument is \$2"

chmod u+x myScript.bash
./myScript.bash
First argument is
Second argument is

./myScript.bash apples oranges
First argument is apples
Second argument is oranges

arg1 arg2 arg3 ... argN

The positional parameter \$0 refers to either the **name of shell** where command was issued, or **name of shell script file** being executed.

If using positional parameters <u>greater</u> than 9, you need to include number within **braces** { }

Examples:

echo \$0
echo \${10}

cat positional.bash #!/bin/bash				
set 10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1				
echo echo "\\$0 is: \$0" echo echo "\\$10 is: \$10" echo echo "\\${10} is: \${10}"				
./positional.bash				
<pre>\$0 is: ./positional.bash</pre>				
\$10 is: 100				
\${10} is: 1				

arg1 arg2 arg3 ... argN

The **shift** command can be used with positional parameters to move positional parameters to the **left** by one or more positions.

Examples:

shift shift 2

set canoe tent food water
echo \$1
canoe
shift
echo \$1
tent
shift 2
echo \$1
water

SPECIAL PARAMETERS

\$* \$# \$?

There are a group of **special parameters** that can be used for shell scripting.

A few of these special parameters and their purpose are displayed in the table below.

Parameter	Purpose
\$*	Display all positional parameters.
``\$*″	Containing values of all arguments separated by a single space
`` \$ @″	Multiple double-quoted strings, each containing the value of one argument
\$#	Represents the number of parameters (not including the script name)
\$?	Exit Status of previous command (discussed in next lesson)

set 1 2 3 4 5
echo \$# 5 echo \$* 1 2 3 4 5
pwd /home/murray.saul echo \$? 0 # zero is true in Unix/Linux
PWD -bash: PWD: command not found echo \$? 127 # non-zero is false in Unix/Linux

POSITIONAL AND SPECIAL PARAMETERS

Task:

Write a **Bash shell script** that accepts arguments from the shell script filename when executed (i.e., just like a regular Linux command).

The Bash Shell script will clear the screen and then display the following text (using **special parameters**):

Number of arguments are: (number of positional parameters)

The arguments are: (displays of all positional parameters)



COMMAND SUBSTITUTION

Command substitution is a facility that allows a command to be run and its **output** to be pasted back on the command line as **arguments** to another command.

Reference: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Command_substitution

Usage:

command1 \$ (command2) or command1 `command2`

Examples:

file \$(ls)

mail -s "message" \$(cat email-list.txt) < message.txt</pre>

echo "The current directory is \$(pwd)"
echo "The current hostname is \$(hostname)"
echo "The date is: \$(date +'%A %B %d, %Y')"

echo "The current directory is \$(pwd)"
The current directory is /home/murray.saul

echo "The current hostname is \$(hostname)"
The current hostname is mtrx-node06pd.dcm.senecacollege.ca

echo "The date is: \$(date +'%A %B %d, %Y')"
The date is: Tuesday March 02, 2021

COMMAND SUBSTITUTION

Task:

Write a **Bash** shell script that **sets** all files in your current directory as **positional parameters**. Use **command substitution** to store all files in your current directory as **positional parameters**.

The Bash Shell script will clear the screen and then display the following text (using special parameters):

Number of files in current directory are: (number of positional parameters)

Here are the filenames: (displays of all positional parameters)



Performing math calculations can be an important element in shell scripting.

A problem you may experience in shell scripting (as opposed to other programming languages) is that in shell scripting, all characters (including numbers) are stored as **text**.

This can create **problems** when performing math operations.

Demonstration:

num1=5;num2=10
echo "\$num1+\$num2"
5+10
echo "\$num1-\$num2"
5-10
echo "\$num1*\$num2"
5*10

In order to make math operations work in a Linux shell or shell script, you need to **convert** numbers stored as **text** into **binary numbers**.

We can do this by using using a **math construct** consisting two pairs of round brackets (())

Examples:

```
num1=5;num2=10
echo "$(( $num1 + $num2))"
15
echo "$((num1-num2))"
-5
((product=num1*num2))
echo "$product"
50
```

Additional math operators are shown below.

Examples:

```
num1=2;num2=3
echo $((num1/num2))
0
echo $((num1%num2))
3
echo $((num1**num2))
8
echo $((num1++))
4
echo $((num1--))
1
```

Operator	Description
+	Addition
-	Subtraction
*	Multiplication
1	Division
%	Remainder
**	Exponentiation
++	Increment (increase by 1)
	Decrement (decrease by 1)

Task I:

Write a **Bash** shell script that prompts the user for the sale **price** of an item and the **number** of items purchased.

The shell script will display the **total amount** (eg. **price** x **number** of items) of the sale.

For simplicity, you can assume prices are just integers.

Task 2:

Write a **Bash** shell script that prompts the user prompts the user for **two numbers**.

The shell script will then show the results from **addition**, **subtraction**, **multiplication** and **division** of those numbers.



So far, we have created Bash Shell Scripts that execute Linux commands in a **fixed sequence**.

Although those type of scripts can be useful, we can use control flow statements that will control the sequence of the running script based on various situations or conditions.

Control Flow Statements are used to make your shell scripts more **flexible** and allow them to **adapt** to changing situations.



The \$? (exit status) Special Parameter

The special parameter \$? is used to determine the **exit status** of the <u>previously</u> issued **Linux command** or **Linux pipeline command**.

The exit status will either display a **zero** (representing **TRUE**) or a **non-zero number** (representing **FALSE**).

This method can be used with control-flow statements to **change the sequence** of your shell script execution. We will apply this when we discuss advanced shell scripting in two weeks.

Examples:

PWD echo \$? pwd echo \$?



<pre>PWD -bash: PWD: command not found echo \$? 127</pre>
pwd /home/murray.saul echo \$? 0
echo "Hi there" grep Hi Hi there echo \$? 0
echo "Hi there" grep Goodbye echo \$? 1

The test Linux Command

The **test** Linux command is used to test conditions to see if they are **TRUE** (i.e. value **zero**) or **FALSE** (i.e. value **non-zero**).

This method can <u>also</u> be used with control-flow statements to **change the sequence** of your shell script execution.

Examples:

```
name="Murray"
test $name = "Murray"
echo $?
test $name = "David"
echo $?
```



	="Murray" \$name = "Murray" \$?
test echo 1	\$name = "David" \$?
test echo 0	<pre>\$name != "David" \$?</pre>

Numerical Comparisons with test Command

You **CANNOT** use the > or < symbols when using the **test** command since those are **redirection** symbols.

You need to use **options** when performing numerical comparisons. Refer to the table below for test options and their purposes.

Option	Purpose
-eq	Equal to
-ne	Not equal to
-lt , -le	Less than, Less than or equal to
-gt, -ge	Greater than, greater than or equal to



num1= num2= test echo 1	=10 \$num1	–eq	\$num2
test echo Ø	\$num1 \$?	-lt	\$num2
test echo Ø	\$num1 \$?	-ne	\$num2
test echo 1	\$num1 \$?	-ge	\$num2

The test Linux Command: Additional Options

There are other **comparison options** that can be used with the **test** command such as testing to see if a **regular file** or if **directory pathname exists**, or if the regular file pathname is **non-empty**.

Refer to the table below for some of those additional options.

Option	Purpose
-f file_pathname	Regular filename exists
-d file_pathname	Directory filename exists
-s file_pathname	Regular filename is non-empty
-w file_pathname	file exists / write permission is granted



mkdir mydir test -d mydir echo \$? 0	
touch myfile.txt test -f myfile.tx echo \$? 0	ĸt
test ! -f myfile echo \$? 1	txt
test -s myfile.tx echo \$? 1	ĸt
test ! -s myfile echo \$? 0	.txt

Logic Statements

A logic statement is used to determine which Linux commands to be executed based on the result of a **test condition** or **command** (i.e. **TRUE** if zero value) or **FALSE** (if non-zero value).

There are **several logic statements**, but we will just concentrate on **if** statement and the **if-else** statements.

if Control Flow Statement

If the **test** command returns a **TRUE** value, then the Linux Commands <u>between</u> **then** and **fi** statements are executed.

If the **test** command returns a **FALSE** value, the *if* statement is **by-passed**.

Usage:

if test condition
 then
 command(s)
fi

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Perform Linux Commands	
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cat if.bash
#!/bin/bash
read -p "Enter First Number: " num1
read -p "Enter Second Number: " num2
if test \$num1 -lt \$num2
then
 echo "Less Than"
fi
./if.bash
Enter First Number: 5
Enter Second Number: 10
Less Than

./if.bash Enter First Number: 10 Enter Second Number: 5

Using [] to Represent test Command

A set of square brackets [] can be used to represent the **test** command.

NOTE: There must be **spaces** between the **square brackets** and the **test** condition.

Example:

```
num1=5
num2=10
if [ $num1 -lt $num2 ]
  then
     echo "Less Than"
fi
```

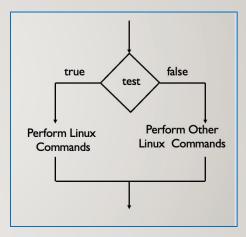
if-else Control Flow Statement

If the test condition returns a **TRUE** value, then the Linux Commands between the **then** and **else** statements are executed.

If the test returns a **FALSE** value, then the the Linux Commands between the **else** and **fi** statements are executed.

Usage:

```
if test condition
  then
      command(s)
  else
      command(s)
fi
```



```
cat if-else.bash
#!/bin/bash
read -p "Enter First Number: " num1
read -p "Enter Second Number: " num2
if [ $num1 -lt $num2 ]
then
   echo "Less Than"
else
  echo "Greater Than or Equal To"
fi
./if-else.bash
Enter First Number: 3
Enter Second Number: 5
Less Than
./if-else.bash
Enter First Number: 5
Enter Second Number: 3
Greater Than or Equal To
```

Instructor Demonstration

Task1:

Write a **Bash** shell script that will first set a variable called **course** to the value **uli101** (lowercase). Then the shell script will clear the screen and prompt the user for the current course code. Use **logic** that if the user's entry does match the value contained in the variable **course**, the following text is displayed:

You are correct

Task2:

Modify the previous Bash Shell script to display the alternative message if the user's entry does NOT match the value (stored in the variable called **course**) then the following alternative text is displayed:

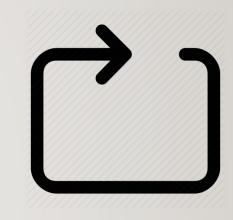
You are incorrect

Loop Statements (iteration)

A **loop** statement is a series of steps or sequence of statements **executed repeatedly** zero or more times satisfying the given condition.

Reference:

https://www.chegg.com/homework-help/definitions/loop-statement-3



The **for** Loop

There are several loops, but we will look at the for loop using a list.

Usage:

for item in list do

command(s)

done

The variable **item** will hold one item from the list every time the loop iterates (repeats) the commands between the **do** and **done** reserved words.

A **list** can consist of a series of arguments (separated by spaces) or supplied by command substitution

The **for** Loop

Example:

for x in apples oranges bananas

do

echo "The item is: \$x"
done

cat for.bash
#!/bin/bash
for x in apples oranges bananas
do
 echo "The item is: \$x"
done
./for.bash
The item is: apples
The item is: oranges
The item is: bananas

Task:

Write a **Bash shell script** that **sets** all files in your current directory as **positional parameters.** Use **command substitution** to store all files in your current directory as **positional parameters.**

The Bash Shell script will clear the screen and then display the following text (using special parameters). Use a for loop to display each filename on a SEPARATE line using a **for** loop:

Number of files in current directory are: (number of positional parameters)

Here are the filenames: (displays each positional parameters on a SEPARATE line)



HOMEWORK

Getting Practice

To get practice to help perform **assignment #3**, perform **Week 10 Tutorial**:

- INVESTIGATION 3: COMMAND SUBSTITUTION / MATH OPERATIONS
- INVESTIGATION 4: USING CONTROL FLOW STATEMENTS IN SHELL SCRIPTS
- LINUX PRACTICE QUESTIONS (Part A 4, Part B Walk-Thru #2)

Work on Assignment #3:

- Section 3: Interactive Shell Environment
- **Section 4:** Introduction To Scripting (phone)