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A process is what our computer keeps track of for each command while it is running. This includes:

- Where its standard input comes from (typing or file) and where its standard output should go (terminal or file)
- Its memory (like where all the variables and objects are stored) and code (Java bytecode, bash script code)
- The command line arguments it started with
- Any ports it is listening on, any files it is reading from or writing to.... and lots more!

When a **process** ends, it has a **return code** or **exit code**. The rule is that **0** means success and **non-0** means error. In **bash**, the **exit code** of the **last process that ran** is stored in the special variable: \$? (yes, that's a dollar sign then a question mark)

```
run-exit-code.sh
set -e
javac ExitCode.java
java ExitCode 0
echo $?
java ExitCode 1
echo $?
java ExitCode 3
echo $?
class ExitCode {
  public static void main(String[] args) {
    System.out.println("Exiting with code " + args[0]);
    System.exit(Integer.parseInt(args[0]));
  }
}
                                            ExitCode.java
```

Where might it be useful to use or check an exit code?

in areas where an error might occur

or where you want to see what the variable is currently stored

What happens when you submit a PA in CSE12?

It goes through gradescope's autograder

it takes some time but will run public/hidden test cases

we then get a score based on our implentation

```
bash-3.2$ bash run-exit-code.sh
# what's the output? why?
 Exiting with code 0
 Exiting with code 1
could it be that the last process that ran was stored in this case
bash-3.2$ ls does-not-exist.txt
ls: does-not-exist: No such file or directory
bash-3.2$ echo $? # fill in a guess/the result below
 returns the variable stored $? (in this case it's 1)
bash-3.2$ cat BadFile.java
class Bad {
  private statik void mane(Strong[] orgs) {}
bash-3.2$ javac BadFile.java
BadFile.java:2: error: <identifier> expected
  private statik void mane(Strong[] orgs) {}
1 error
bash-3.2$ echo $?
1
bash-3.2$ echo $? # fill in a guess/the result below
there must be nothing there? or it could be last known value (1)?
bash-3.2$ cat GoodFile.java
class Main {
  public static void main(String[] args) { }
bash-3.2$ javac GoodFile.java
bash-3.2$ echo $? $ fill in a guess/the result below
whatever args is?
```

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These are a few commonly-used commands. There are lots more! We could fill pages with them

https://github.com/bluesky-social/social-app

Bluesky, also known as **Bluesky Social**, is a microblogging social platform and a public benefit corporation. The service is focused on microblogging, and has been called "Twitter-like". Bluesky Social was made open source under the MIT license in May 2023. [27]

```
social-app % ls

Dockerfile bskyweb patches

Gemfile docs plugins

LICENSE eas.json scripts

Makefile google-services.json.example src

... a few more files ...
```

This is a big codebase! Hundreds of files.

What questions could we ask that we can answer with these commands?