Linux Shell Scripts

What is Shell Script?

- We have seen some basic shell commands, it's time to move on to scripts.
- There are two ways of writing shell programs.
 - You can type a sequence of commands and allow the shell to execute them interactively.
 - You can store those commands in a file that you can then invoke as a program. This is known as Shell Script.
- We will use bash shell assuming that the shell has been installed as /bin/sh and that it is the default shell for your login.

Why Shell Script?

- Shell script can take input from user, file and output them on screen.
- Useful to create own commands.
- Save lots of time.
- To automate some task of day today life.
- System administration part can be also automated.

How to write and execute?

- Use any editor to write shell script.
- The extension is .sh.
- After writing shell script set execute permission for your script.
 - chmod +x script_name
- Execute your script
 - ./script_name

Shell script format

- Every script starts with the line
 - #!/bin/bash
- This indicates that the script should be run in the bash shell regardless of which interactive shell the user has chosen.
- This is very important, since the syntax of different shells can vary greatly.
- # is used as the comment character.
- A word beginning with # causes that word and all remaining characters on that line to be ignored.

A sample shell script

```
#!/bin/bash
echo "Hello User"
echo "See the files in current directory"
ls
```

Variables

- In Linux (Shell), there are two types of variable:
 - System variables created and maintained by Linux itself.
 - echo \$USER
 - echo \$PATH
 - User defined variables created and maintained by user.
- All variables are considered and stored as strings, even when they are assigned numeric values.
- Variables are case sensitive.

Variables

- When assigning a value to a variable, just use the name.
- No spaces on either side of the equals sign.
 - var_name=value
- Within the shell we can access the contents of a variable by preceding its name with a s.

```
myname=A [ use quotes if the value contains spaces ]
myos=Linux
text = 1+2
echo Your name:$myname [ A ]
echo Your os:$myos [ Linux ]
echo $text [ 1+2 ]
```

Variables

- If you enclose a \$variable expression in double quotes, it's replaced with its value when the line is executed.
- If you enclose it in single quotes, no substitution takes place. You can also remove the special meaning of the \$ symbol by prefacing it with a \.

```
myvar="Hello"
echo $myvar [ Hello ]
echo "$myvar" [ Hello ]
echo '$myvar' [ $myvar ]
echo \$myvar [ $myvar ]
```

Read

To read user input from keyboard and store it into a variable use read var1,var2,....varn

```
#!/bin/bash
echo -n "Enter your name:"
read name
echo -n "Enter your student no:"
read stdno
echo "Your Name:$name"
echo "Your Age:$stdno"
```

Shell Arithmetic

- The expr command evaluates its arguments as an expression.
- It is commonly used for simple arithmetic operations.

```
#!/bin/bash
expr 1 + 1
expr 1 - 1
expr 1 \* 1
expr 1/1
r='expr 1 + 1'backticks are used (cannot put spaces around "=")
x=1
x='expr $x + 1'
```

Shell Arithmetic

Expression Evaluation	Description
expr1 expr2	expr1 if expr1 is nonzero, otherwise expr2
expr1 & expr2	Zero if either expression is zero, otherwise expr1
expr1 = expr2	Equal
expr1 > expr2	Greater than
expr1 >= expr2	Greater than or equal to
expr1 < expr2	Less than
expr1 <= expr2	Less than or equal to
expr1 != expr2	Not equal
expr1 + expr2	Addition
expr1 - expr2	Subtraction
expr1 * expr2	Multiplication
expr1 / expr2	Integer division
expr1 % expr2	Integer modulo

```
if [ conditiong1 ]; then
    statement1
elif [ condition2 ]; then
    statement2
else
    statement3
fi
```

- It is must to put spaces between the [braces and the condition being checked.
- If you prefer putting then on the same line as if, you must add a semicolon to separate the test from the then.

String Comparison	Result
string1 = string2	True if the strings are equal.
string1 != string2	True if the strings are not equal.
-n string	True if the string is not null.
-z string	True if the string is null (an empty string).

Arithmetic Comparison	Result
expression1 -eq expression2	True if the expressions are equal.
expression1 -ne expression2	True if the expressions are not equal.
expression1 -gt expression2	True if expression1 is greater than expression2.
expression1 -ge expression2	True if expression1 is greater than or equal to expression2.
expression1 -lt expression2	True if expression1 is less than expression2.
expression1 -le expression2	True if expression1 is less than or equal to expression2.
! expression	True if the expression is false, and vice versa.

File Conditional	Result
-d file	True if the file is a directory.
-e file	True if the file exists. Note that, historically, the -e option has not been portable, so -f is usually used.
-f file	True if the file is a regular file.
-g file	True if set-group-id is set on file.
-r file	True if the file is readable.
-s file	True if the file has nonzero size.
-u file	True if set-user-id is set on file.
-w file	True if the file is writable.
-x file	True if the file is executable.

```
#!/bin/bash
echo "Enter first number "
read num1
echo "Enter second number"
read num2
if [ $num1 -qt $num2 ]; then
  echo "$num1 is greater than $num2"
elif[$num1-lt$num2]; then
  echo "$num1 is less than $num2"
else
  echo "$num1 and $num2 are equal"
```

Case

```
case $var in
    condition1) statement ;;
    condition2) statement ;;
    *) statement3
esac
```

- Notice that each pattern line is terminated with double semicolons ;; .
- You can put multiple statements between each pattern and the next, so a double semicolon is needed to mark where one statement ends and the next pattern begins.

Case

```
#!/bin/sh
echo "Is it morning? Please answer yes or no"
read timeofday
case "$timeofday" in
 yes) echo "Good Morning";;
 no) echo "Good Afternoon";;
 y) echo "Good Morning";;
 n) echo "Good Afternoon";;
  *) echo "Sorry, answer not recognized";;
esac
```

Case

Command Line arguments

- Command line arguments can be passed to the shell scripts. There exists a number of built in variables
 - \$* command line arguments
 - **\$#** number of arguments
 - **\$n** nth argument in \$*
- ./script_name arg1 arg2 argn

For

```
for variable in list
do
    statement
done
for (( expr1; expr2; expr3 ))
do
    statement
done
```

For

```
[1]
                                 [2]
#!/bin/bash
                                 #!/bin/bash
echo "the number of args is
                                for i in `ls`
   $#"
                                 do
                                    echo $i
\alpha=1
for i in $*
                                 done
do
   echo "The $a No arg is $i"
                                 [3]
   a = 'expr $a + 1'
                                 for(( i=o;i<=50;i++))
done
                                 do
                                    echo $i
                                 done
```

While

while condition do statements done

```
#!/bin/bash
password="abc"
echo "Enter password"
read pass
while [ $pass != $password ]
do
echo "Wrong Password, Try again"
read pass
done
echo "Write Password"
```

Until

until condition do statements done

```
#!/bin/bash
password="abc"
echo "Enter password"
read pass
until [ $pass = $password ]
do
echo "Wrong Password, Try again"
read pass
done
echo "Write Password"
```

- Functions can be defined in the shell and it is very useful to structure the code.
- To define a shell function simply write its name followed by empty parentheses and enclose the statements in braces.

```
function_name () {
    statements
}
```

Function must be defined before one can invoke it.

```
#!/bin/sh
foo() {
  echo "Function foo is executing"
echo "script starting"
foo
echo "script ending"
<u>output</u>
script starting
Function foo is executing
script ending
```

- When a function is invoked, the parameters to the script [\$*, \$#, \$1, \$2] and so on are replaced by the parameters to the function.
- When the function finishes, they are restored to their previous values.

```
#!/bin/bash
showarg()
  a=1
  for i in $*
  do
  echo "The $a No arg is $i"
  a = 'expr $a + 1'
  done
echo "Listing start"
showarg $*
echo "Total:$#"
echo "Listing End"
```

- Functions can return numeric values using the return command.
- Functions can also return strings by the following ways.

```
[1]
f(){ var="123"; }
f
echo $var

[2]
f(){ echo "123"; }
result="$(f)"
```

```
#!/bin/sh
                               if yes_or_no "$1"
                               then
yes_or_no()
                                 echo "Hi $1, nice name"
 echo "Is your name $*?"
                               else
 echo "Enter yes or no:"
                                 echo "Never mind"
  read x
  case "$x" in
    y | yes ) return o;;
    n | no ) return 1;;
  esac
```

- Be careful :
 - Function calling can be recursive.

```
f()
{
    statements
    f
}
f
```

 The parameter must be passed every time a function is invoked either from main or from any other functions.

Thanks