

# PHY473/473A- Computational Physics

## Lecture-2

### Introduction to Unix and shell script

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Source: Learning the bash Shell - Unix Shell  
Programming by Cameron Newham and web

PHY473/473A - Gopal Hazra

# Unix File System

## Navigating the Shell :

You can access the shell by opening a  
terminal emulator

## Paths and pwd:

Path of a directory can be either  
absolute paths or relative paths

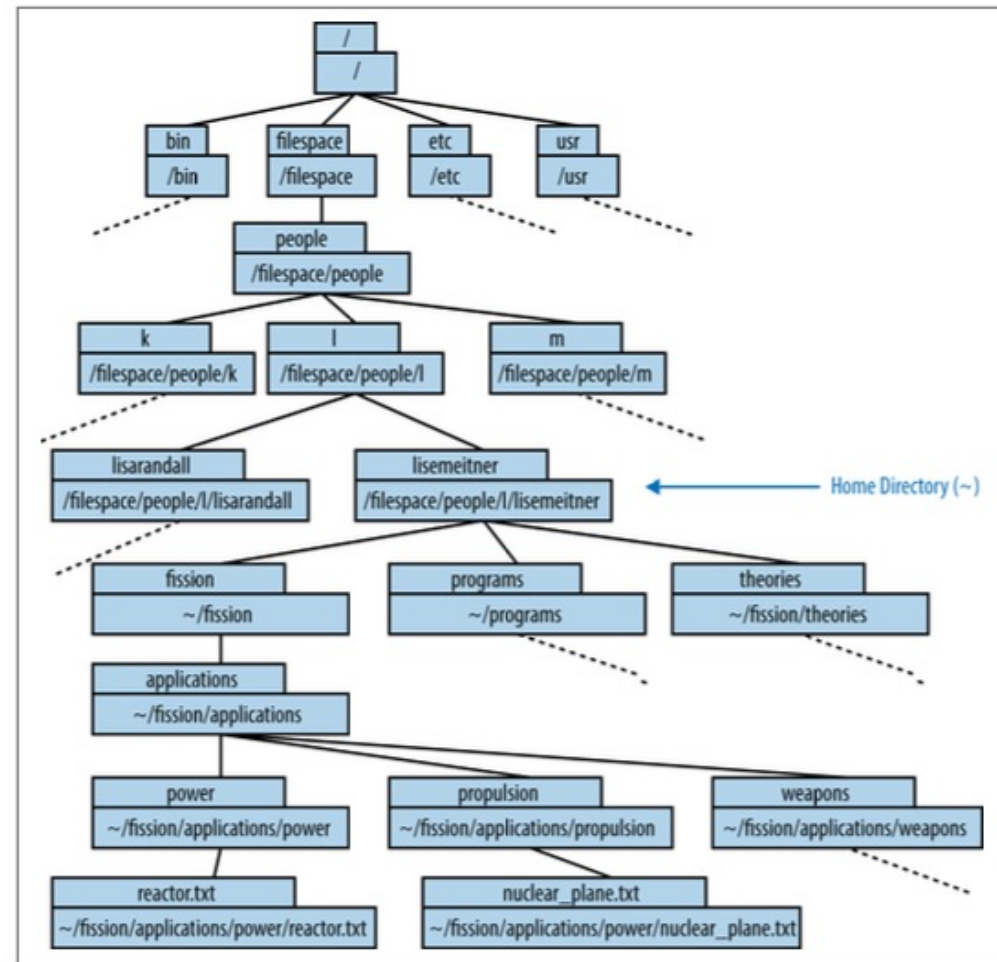


Figure 1-2. An example directory tree

# A few important commands to remember

**Listing the Contents (ls- command)**

**Creating Directories (mkdir)**

**Changing Directory (cd)**

**Removing files and directory (rm, rm -r )**

**File Inspection (head and tail) :** sometimes we need to see what is the beginning and end of a file. This is usually useful for a very heavy file

Sometimes the command “more” also has been used.

**Copy and Move, text editor**

# How to use Manual from terminals!

The 'man' command in Linux is used **to display the user manual of any command that we can run on the terminal**

```
$man [OPTION]... [COMMAND NAME]...
```

```
$ man printf
```

**-f option:** One may not be able to remember the sections in which a command is present. So this option gives the section in which the given command is present.

```
$ man 2 intro
```

```
$ man -f ls
```

## Finding the Right Hammer (apropos)

The bash shell has so many built-in programs, practically no one has all of their names memorized.

```
~ $ apropos "text editor"
```

**Example 1:** Suppose you don't know how to compress a file then you could type the following command in terminal and it will show all the related command and its short description or functionality.

```
~ $ apropos "compress"
```

✓ Now we have learned how to write a shell script

✓ Repeating processes on multiple lines

✓ This type of file, like a python file, can be executed in a terminal

An example task: Enter in a directory and print the name of the parent directory

```
# explore.sh ❶
# explore the three directories above this one
# print a status message
echo "Initial Directory:"
# print the working directory
pwd
# list the contents of this directory
ls
echo "Parent Directory:"
# ascend to the parent directory
cd ..
pwd
ls
echo "Grandparent Directory:"
cd ..
pwd
ls
echo "Great-Grandparent Directory:"
cd ..
pwd
ls
```

command line

(.sh extension)

are valid in the

directory names!

# Creating Multiple directories?

Single directory → `$ mkdir PHY473` → very simple

But for 1000 directories you need to write a script

```
#!/bin/bash
# Set the base directory base_dir="//Users/hazra/Desktop/PHY_473"

# Create three directories
for ((i=1; i<=3; i++)); do
  dir_path="$base_dir/dir_$i"

  # Check if directory already exists
  if [ ! -d "$dir_path" ]; then
    echo "Creating directory: $dir_path"
    mkdir -p "$dir_path"
    echo "Directory created: $dir_path"
  else
    echo "Directory already exists: $dir_path"
  fi
done
```

# Details about Shell Script – Bash Shell!

- ✓ The shell is a command interpreter.
- ✓ It is the layer between the operating system kernel and the user.

There are many shells one can use, Most widely used one is Called BASH shell (Bourne Again Shell)



The shell is a programming language that is run by the terminal. Like other programming languages, the shell:

- Can collect many operations into single entities
- Requires input
- Produces output
- Has variables and state
- Uses irritating syntax
- Uses special characters

## Some Special characters used in shell scripts

`#`:Comments

`~`:home directory

## Find out which Shell you are using

Go to your terminal:

```
% Echo $0
```

# How to Execute a shell script

- The first line must be “#!/bin/bash”.
  - setup the shell path
- **chmod u+x scriptname** (gives only the script owner execute permission)
- ./scripname

Example:

```
#!/bin/bash
```

```
# Store the current working directory in a variable
```

```
current_directory=$(pwd)
```

```
# Print the current working directory
```

```
echo "Current directory: $current_directory"
```

# Internal Built function and commands

- **getopts:**
  - parses command line arguments passed to the script.
- **exit:**
  - Unconditionally terminates a script
- **set:**
  - changes the value of internal script variables. e.g., set MY\_VARIABLE="Hello"
- **read:**
  - Reads" the value of a variable from stdin
  - also "read" its variable value from a file redirected to stdin
- **wait:**
  - Stop script execution until all jobs running in background have terminated
- **WC** — word count, number counts

# Internal Built function and commands ...

- **grep:**
  - **grep pattern file**
    - search the files file, etc. for occurrences of *pattern*
- **expr:**
  - evaluates the arguments according to the operation given
    - **y=`expr \$y + 1`** (same as **y=\$((y+1))**)

```
# Multiplication
result=$(expr 6 \* 2)
echo "6 * 2 = $result"
```

# Example of the usage of 'grep'

You can use grep to find out some word, some expression from large number of coding files

**Search for a Pattern in a File:** `grep "pattern" filename`

**Search Recursively in Directories:** `grep -r "pattern" directory`

**Display Line Numbers:** `grep -n "pattern" filename`

**Case-Insensitive Search:** `grep -i "search_words" filename`

# Redirection of input output

- >: Redirect stdout to a file, Creates the file if not present, otherwise overwrites it
- < : Accept input from a file.
- >>: Creates the file if not present, otherwise appends to it.
- <<:
  - Forces the input to a command to be the shell's input, which until there is a line that contains only *label*.
  - cat >> mshfile << .
- |:pipe, similar to ">",

# Redirection input output –Example

**Standard Output (stdout) Redirection (>):** command > output\_file

```
echo "Hello, World!" > hello.txt
```

**Append to a File (>>):** command >> output\_file

```
echo "Appended text" >> hello.txt
```

**Here Documents (<<):** Allows you to embed a block of input text directly into a script

Bash usage: command << END

```
This is  
a multiline  
input  
END
```

Example: cat << EOF > multiline.txt

```
Line 1  
Line 2  
Line 3  
EOF
```



# If condition in BASH

## Example:

```
if [ condition ] then
    command1
elif # Same as else if
then
    command1
else
    default-command
fi
```

```
#!/bin/bash

# Example: Check if a number is greater than 12

number=15

if [ "$number" -gt 12 ]; then
    echo "$number is greater than 12."
else
    echo "$number is not greater than 12."
fi
```

- eq: equal to
- ne: not equal to
- lt: less than.

- le: less than or equal to
- gt: greater than
- ge: greater than or equal to

# case

```
x=5
case $x in
  0) echo "Value of x is 0."
    ;
  5) echo "Value of x is 5."
    ;
  9) echo "Value of x is 9."
    ;
  *) echo "Unrecognized value."
esac
done
```

Example:

```
#!/bin/bash

# Example: Check if a file name has a .txt extension

filename="example.txt"

case "$filename" in
  *.txt)
    echo "It's a text file."
    ;;
  *)
    echo "It's not a text file."
    ;;
esac
```

## Loops in BASH shell (for, while and until)

Example: For loop is easy, so we show only while and until

- for [arg] in [list];  
do  
command  
done
- while [condition];  
do  
□command...  
done

```
#!/bin/bash
```

```
# Example: Print numbers from 1 to 7 using a while loop  
counter=1
```

```
while [ $counter -le 7 ]; do  
    echo "Number: $counter"  
    ((counter++))  
done
```

```
#!/bin/bash
```

```
# Example: Print numbers from 1 to 7 using an until loop
```

```
counter=1
```

```
until [ $counter -gt 7 ]; do  
    echo "Number: $counter"  
    ((counter++))  
done
```

# Loops in BASH shell (cont.)

- break, continue
  - **break** command terminates the loop
  - **continue** causes a jump to the next iteration of the loop

```
#!/bin/bash
```

```
# Example: Exit the loop when the counter reaches 3
```

```
for ((i=1; i<=5; i++)); do  
    echo "Iteration: $i"
```

```
    if [ $i -eq 3 ]; then  
        break
```

```
    fi  
done
```

```
#!/bin/bash
```

```
# Example: Skip printing even numbers
```

```
for ((i=1; i<=5; i++)); do  
    if [ $((i % 2)) -eq 0 ]; then
```

```
        continue  
    fi
```

```
    echo "Number: $i"  
done
```

# Introduction to Variables in BASH

- **\$**: variable substitution
  - If **variable1** is the name of a variable, then **\$variable1** is a reference to its *value*.

## Arithmetic Substitution:

```
#!/bin/bash
```

```
# Perform arithmetic operations
```

```
a=5
```

```
b=3
```

```
result=$((a + b))
```

```
echo "Result: $result"
```

## Length of a String:

```
#!/bin/bash
```

```
# Get the length of a string
```

```
word="Bash"
```

```
length=${#word}
```

```
echo "Length of the word '$word': $length"
```

# Pattern Matching –very important for file manipulations

- `${variable#pattern}` -> removes the shortest match of pattern from the beginning (front) of the value stored in the variable

```
#!/bin/bash
```

```
# Example: Removing a pattern from the beginning of a string
```

```
original_string="prefix_hello_world"
```

```
# Remove the shortest match of "prefix_" from the beginning  
of the string
```

```
result=${original_string#prefix_}
```

```
echo "Original String: $original_string"
```

```
echo "Result: $result"
```

# Examples of Pattern Matching

`${variable##pattern}`

`${variable%pattern}`

`${variable%%pattern}`

`x=/home/cam/book/long.file.name`

`echo ${x#/*/} → /cam/book/long.file.name`

`echo ${x##*/}. → /book/long.file.name`

`echo ${x%.*}. → /home/cam/book/long.file`

`echo ${x%%.*} → /home/cam/book/long`

# Aliases are very important for scientific computing

- Avoiding typing a long command sequence
- Ex: alias lm="ls -l | more"



# Array in BASH

- Declare:
  - declare -a array\_name
- To dereference (find the contents of) an array variable, use *curly bracket* notation, that is, **`${ array[xx]}`**
- refers to *all* the elements of the array
  - `${array_name[@]}` or `${array_name[*]}`
- get a count of the number of elements in an array
  - `${#array_name[@]}` or `${#array_name[*]}`

# Array Example in BASH

```
#!/bin/bash
```

```
# Example: Slicing an array
```

```
fruits=("Apple" "Banana" "Orange" "Grapes")
```

```
# Slice the array from index 1 to 2
```

```
sliced_array=("${fruits[@]:1:2}")
```

```
echo "Sliced array: ${sliced_array[@]}"
```

# Defining Functions in BASH

- Type
  - *function function-name {*  
*command...*  
*}*
  - *function-name () {*  
*command...*  
*}*
- Local variables in function:
  - Declare: `local var_name`
- functions may have arguments
  - `function-name $arg1 $arg2`

```
#!/bin/bash
```

```
# Define a function named greet
```

```
greet() {  
    {echo "Hello, $1!"  
}
```

```
# Call the function with a parameter
```

```
greet "Jesus"
```

```
Result: Hello, Jesus
```

# Defining Functions in BASH

```
#!/bin/bash

# Define a function named factorial
factorial() {
    if [ $1 -eq 0 ] || [ $1 -eq 1 ]; then
        echo 1
    else
        local subresult=$(factorial $(( $1 - 1 )))
        echo $(( $1 * $subresult ))
    fi
}
```

```
# Prompt the user for input
read -p "Enter a number to calculate its factorial: " num
```

```
# Call the factorial function with user input
result=$(factorial $num)
```

```
# Display the result
echo "The factorial of $num is: $result"
```

- The factorial function calculates the factorial of a number recursively. If the input is 0 or 1, it returns 1. Otherwise, it calculates the factorial by calling itself with a decremented argument.

- The script prompts the user to enter a number, calls the factorial function with the user's input, and then displays the result.

When you run this script, it will prompt you to enter a number, calculate its factorial, and then print the result.

# Positional Parameters

- \$1, \$2, \$3 .....
- \$0 is the name of the script.
- The variable \$# holds the number of positional parameter.

```
#!/bin/bash
```

```
# Example script: positional_parameters.sh
```

```
echo "The script name is: $0"  
echo "The first argument is: $1"  
echo "The second argument is: $2"  
echo "All arguments are: @$@ -> @$@"  
echo "The number of arguments is: $# -> $#"
```

If you run this:

```
bash positional_parameters.sh arg1 arg2 arg3
```

```
The script name is: positional_parameters.sh  
The first argument is: arg1  
The second argument is: arg2  
All arguments are: @$@ -> arg1 arg2 arg3  
The number of arguments is: $# -> 3
```

# Positional Parameters in Functions

Positional parameters in functions work similarly to how they work in scripts.

- \$1, \$2, \$3....
- Not from \$0

# Files

- /etc/profile
  - systemwide defaults, mostly setting the environment
- /etc/bashrc
  - systemwide functions and and aliases for Bash
- \$HOME/.bash\_profile
  - user-specific Bash environmental default settings, found in each user's home directory
- \$HOME/.bashrc
  - user-specific Bash init file, found in each user's home directory

# Debugging

- The Bash shell contains no debugger, nor even any debugging-specific commands or constructs.
- The simplest debugging aid is the output statement, **echo**.
- Set option
  - -n: Don't run command; check for syntax error only
  - -v: Echo commands before running them
  - -x: Echo commands after command-line processing