

Faculty of Engineering and Applied Science SOFE 3200U Systems Programming Lab Report 3

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Questions

1. How will you pass and access arguments to a script in Linux?

To pass arguments to a shell script, you have to run the script from terminal. After the './script.sh', you type the arguments separated with spaces like 'hello world' and so on.

Ex) ./task0.sh hello world \rightarrow this passes the arguments 'hello' and 'world' to task0.sh upon execution.

To access the arguments passed to a shell script, you use the dollar sign '\$' and then the position of the argument as it was passed to the script.

Ex) echo "\$0 \$1 \$2", this will print the name of the script, and then the first and second arguments passed to it.

2. What is the significance of \$#

This command tells us the number of arguments passed to a shell script via the command line.

Ex) If we run the script as ./cal3.sh 3 2014, '\$#' will contain 2.