Making the Linux/UNIX Shell Productive

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Layout of Today

- Overview of different shells used in academia
- Manipulating I/O (pipes and redirections)
- Environmental Variables
- Creating aliases
- Startup files
- Useful tricks: Wildcards, History

Overview of Shells

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When I started doing this stuff with Unix, I wasn't a very good programmer. *(Bill Joy on the ad hoc parser (2009))*

Startup Files

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Login shell Is this the first shell you started when logging in?

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Interactive, Non-Login Shells reads `~/.bashrc` if it exists

Simplify life by always using ~/.bashrc

Listing 1: Put this in ~/.bash_profile

```
if [ -f ~/.bashrc ];
        then . ~/.bashrc;
fi
```